THE NEW
SUNDAY EXPRESS

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U.S. SUPREME COURT REJECTS SUIT CHALLENGING BIDEN WIN

In a major blow for US President Donald Trump, the top court rejected a lawsuit challenging his rival's win in four key states

'NO JUDICIALLY COGNIZABLE INTEREST'

The lawsuit by Texas attorney general had sought to block the ballots of millions of voters in the swing states of Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. The court said, Texas does not have the legal right to sue those states because it "has not demonstrated a judicially cognizable interest in the manner in which another state conducts its elections" | P11

TRUMP APPOINTEES VOICE NO DISSENT

- Neither Justice Amy Barrett, whom Trump hurriedly appointed in October, expecting her backing in election disputes, nor the two other judges he appointed, noted a dissent against the ruling
- Trump bemoaned the decision late on Friday, tweeting: "The Supreme Court really let us down. No Wisdom, No Courage!"

538 electors

TO MEET MONDAY TO CHOOSE THE NEXT PRESIDENT. BIDEN HAS 306 ELECTORS

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Reforms will break barriers: Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday defended the farm reforms, saying they will increase farmers' income. "If you place barriers, which previous governments did, an industry or sector cannot grow. The recent agriculture reforms are a part of that barrier-breaking process," he said in his address to the Annual General Meeting of the FICCI

Farm leaders to sit on hunger strike tomorrow

Farmers take over two toll plazas in Haryana; Delhi-Jaipur main road to be blocked today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Chandigarh

FARMERS' union leaders said on Saturday they were ready for talks with the government, but only to discuss the repeal of the three contentious laws and not any amendment.

"We are ready for talks but the government has to discuss the repealing of the farm laws first. We will move on to other demands only after that," said Sanyukta Kisan Andolan leader Kamalpreet Singh Pannu.

To escalate their protest, the protesters will block the Delhi-Jaipur highway on Sunday, a day before the proposed nationwide protest. On Monday, farmers, union leaders will hold a one-day hunger strike and lay siege to the offices of deputy commissioners.

"We have given a call to women to intensify their protest," said Pannu, adding farmers from various parts of the country were on their way to Singhu border and they would take the agitation to the next level.

Protesters are bringing combine harvesters from Punjab and Haryana to the Singhu and Tikri borders, to pull down the barricades put up by police.

"One combine can pull down 25-30 barricades. If police have vehicles to stop us then we have the combines, which are our tanks," said a youngster who brought a combine to Singhu. P9

Workers go on rampage at iPhone unit over pay dues

V VELAYUDHAM @ Kolar

THE workers of Wistron Corporation, the Taiwan-headquartered company which manufactures iPhones, damaged furniture, computers and television sets, and even overturned vehicles at its facility in Narasapura industrial area early on Saturday. They were protesting against alleged non-payment of salary dues.

Preliminary investigation has revealed major damage on the premises and work has been suspended temporarily for a week. Sources said the facility employs about 5,000 workers of whom about 2,000 are contract employees. The incident occurred after the night shift (10 pm to 6 am) concluded and the first shift (6 am to 2 pm) employees, who were coming in, also joined in.

Police resorted to lathicharge to disperse the workers. P5

Damaged equipment and furniture at Wistron's facility near Kolar on Saturday.

The government will do the needful to ensure that the situation is resolved expeditiously and that the concerns of all stakeholders are allayed —Deputy Chief Minister Dr C N Ashwath Narayan

Transport staff, govt harden stance

Employees of state-owned transport corporations continued their strike for the third day on Saturday. While they have decided to intensify their agitation, CM B S Yediyurappa and Transport Minister Laxman Savadi asked them to first call off the agitation and come for talks.

DETAILS | P4

CELEBRATING SPORT

Governor Vajubhai Vala, Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa, and Deputy CM Dr C N Ashwath Narayan, along with KOA President K Govindaraj, release a coffee table book titled, 'India's Sporting Victories', brought out by The New Indian Express at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium, in Bengaluru on Saturday | VINOD KUMAR T | P7

Conflict of interest in govt's green panel

RICHA SHARMA @ New Delhi

OFFICIALS who headed power and mining corporations will now give green clearance to upcoming projects in these sectors, raising questions of propriety.

An independent director of a private mining company, a former CMD of National Hydroelectric Power Corporation and a former director (Technical) of National Thermal Power Corporation are among those appointed to the Union Environment Ministry's expert appraisal committees (EACs) as 'non-official' members with a mandate to assess damage to the environment by hydroelectric, thermal power and coal mining projects.

The appointments to the reconstituted EACs on Thermal Power and Coal Mining Projects and on River Valley and Hydroelectric Projects have invited criticism, for their chairpersons and members either having conflict of interest or lacking expertise in the field.

Gururaj P Kundargi, former Chairman and Managing Director, Manganese Ore Mining Limited, is the chairperson of EAC on Thermal Power and Coal Mining Projects.

What raises eyebrows is that Kundargi is currently an independent director of Bengaluru-based Sandur Manganese and Iron Ores Ltd and the company's proposal for expansion in production capacity for iron ore from 1.60 million metric tonnes per year (MTPA) to 3.85 MTPA is under consideration by the committee headed by him. P9

Forums, parties unite against Kasturirangan Committee report

Leaders of various political parties and organisation are uniting to fight against the implementation of the Kasturirangan Committee report in the Malnad region. They have even given a call to boycott the gram panchayat polls in the areas identified by the report as eco-sensitive zones | DETAILS | P7

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ALMANAC TODAY

Sunday: 13/12/2020 • Year: Sarvari • Ayana: Dakshinayana
Ritu: Sharad • Masa: Karthika • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Chaturdashi 12:04 am
Nakshatra: Anuradha 1:12 am • Moon in Vrischika Rashi • Rahukaala: 04:30 pm to 06:00pm
Gulikakala: 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm • Yamaganda: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

WEATHER

MIN 15°C | MAX 27°C

FORECAST Sunny

Sunrise 6.32am
Sunset 5.54pm
Moonrise 3.52am
Moonset 3.51pm

TOUCH WOOD!

GADAG MAN MAKES WOODEN WONDERS

RAGHOTTAM KOPPAR @ Gadag

Give him wood and he turns it into an exquisite piece of art. A farmer by profession and an artist by passion, 66-year-old Veerappa Kammar of Jakkali village, Gadag district, has been creating wooden wonders for the last 40 years.

A Class 10 passout, Veerappa carves artefacts and gifts them to people on birthdays and other occasions. He takes care of his farm during the day and becomes an artist in the evening.

Veerappa says, "I have agricultural land and we have been farmers. Now, my son is looking after the farm work. I have always loved to make artefacts from wood. I cannot sit quietly if I see wooden pieces."

That says it all. His house is like a mini museum of wooden art – statues, mini chariots, et al, that welcome you.

Veerappa's father Dharmappa too is a famous artist in Dharwad district. His works attracted many from Hubballi, Bengaluru and other parts of Karnataka. Veerappa learnt to carve statues in single wooden pieces from him but continued his occupation of farming. When he was 20, he realised that if he gave up wood carving, there would be no one to continue his father's legacy. So he took it up in earnest, but not for commercial purposes.

He started making statues of Lord Ganesh, Lord Nataraja, Lord Krishna, Arjuna, Dr B R Ambedkar, Mahatma Gandhi, Sangolli Rayanna, Shivaji Maharaj and started distributing them to schools during annual gatherings.

After seeing his work, many temple authorities approached him and asked him to etch designs on their chariots, palanquins and temple's entrance doors.

After designing big chariots for many temples, Veerappa decided to make mini ones. He started it by making a mini Hampi chariot.

Veerappa says, "It is my passion to make wood art and give it to those who know its value. Now, I am getting requests to make the statues of Prime Minister Modi and Shivaji Maharaj. I have gifted hundreds of statues till now."

He continues, "I have seen my father making Gandhi idols after Independence. In those times, these idols were in demand. One day, my father told me that he never charged for Gandhi idols as he is the Mahatma. Then I decided to make wood art creations and give them to schoolchildren or Kannada organisations." Hanumantappa Jangannavar, a neighbour, says, "Ihave known the Kammar family for the last 30 years. You always see Veerappa sitting with a piece of wood and working on it. I think he has made more than a thousand objects till today."

"Now I am 66 years old. My art and my work keep me healthy and happy," Veerappa says with a smile.

A chariot that Veerappa has carved

Veerappa Kammar

A NATIVE NARRATIVE

Some groups of Wanarmare tribe live in jungles near urban areas and work in fields

TUSHAR A MAJUKAR @ Belagavi

THEY were untouched and uncontacted till yesterday.... living in their own world. Today, some of them are in contact with what they see as the other culture – the "civilized" world.

They live in the middle of the forests where they have different laws and traditions. Wanarmare or Mangimare, a tribal community noted for hunting and eating monkeys, have their small nest called 'Katkariwadi', about 10 km away from Bacholi hamlet, located in the jungles of Khanapur taluk in Belagavi. A result of efforts to introduce them to our way of living.

Till recently, even the government did not have records about their existence and so many members of this tribe do not have an Aadhaar card. In neighbouring Goa, decades after Independence, this tribe cast their vote for the first time in 2017.

There are several groups of Wanarmare tribes who practise their traditional nomadic way of life in the jungles across Karnataka, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and Goa. They don't wear clothes, don't have permanent dwellings -- they don't feel the need for them. A few people of the community got introduced to the outside world and found it totally different from theirs. They tried to convince other members of their community to settle down by constructing dwellings in the jungles but near urban areas. And this is how the world of Katkariwadi came into existence.

It was Suresh Sitaram Nikkam, a member of the Wanarmare tribe, who was accidentally introduced to the people of Khanapur. The staff of the forest department played a big role in familiarising Suresh with an unfamiliar world. He then managed to convince a group of his tribe to form Katkariwadi about 10 years ago. The forest department provided a portion of the land on which they built huts for the first time in their lives. However, they do not like anyone to interfere in their world.

Suresh says there are 22 families of Wanarmare in Katkariwadi, with a population of about 100 people. Though his family has Aadhaar cards, the other members do not have one, he says.

He says that thanks to the efforts of social workers and the forest department, the members of the tribe started wearing clothes and stopped hunting monkeys after they were introduced to rice, dal, and vegetables. And some of them have even started farming in small patches of the forest land, he adds. They are known for their hard work and strength.

Reaching Katkariwadi especially during rains is very difficult for anyone. But Amit Parmekar, a social worker of Khanapur, manages to reach it every alternate day, to help the tribe. He gathers donations for them like clothes and groceries.

Amit says that for the last seven years he has been interacting with them. He says they have their own law. "They do not have a wedding or naming ceremony. If a boy and a girl like each other, they inform the leader and then they are considered to be married. If a baby is born, the couple will immediately name it," he says.

Children have not attended school till date. Amit is convincing the parents to send their children to school for which he has even approached the taluk administration, which has responded positively.

The women have to daily trek about 5 km in the jungles to fetch drinking water. Amit is also trying to get them a pipeline.

Still there are groups of the tribe moving in the deep jungles and a few of them know that their relatives have settled at Katkariwadi. If any of them happen to pass through Khanapur jungles, they do visit Katkariwadi – and it will be celebration time for them.

Suresh Sitaram Nikkam

(1-6), Snapshots of life in Katkariwadi, a settlement of Wanarmare people in Belagavi district | EXPRESS

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Traditionally, the nomadic Wanarmare people hunted monkeys (until the law prohibited it), due to which they get their name: 'Wanar' (monkey) and Mare (killers)

Wanarmare people are innocent and hard workers. Their children need education. I and my friends will keep trying to convince the elders of the tribe

– Amit Parmekar, social worker

Palike, MEG team up to clean Ulsoor Lake

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) partnered with Madras Engineer Group and Centre (MEG) joined hands once again on Saturday to clean Ulsoor lake.

The difference this time, was that it was decided to install trash barriers near the inlet point so that all the waste can be trapped.

The BBMP and MEG cleared 113 acres of the lake. While earlier 50 BBMP employees and 50 from MEG were deployed, on Saturday, 80 staffers from the Palike and 150 from MEG were roped in to clean the prime water body. They went around in five boats and collected 25- 30 loads of weeds and plastic.

BBMP Commissioner N Manjunatha Prasad, who also participated in the drive, said that it since the MEG uses the water body for training purposes, it needs to be well-maintained always. It is also important to keep the lake clean as it is a prime space for walkers. Funds will be kept aside for cleaning the lake as it is concerned with the health of people.

He also said that 100 feet trash barriers are being erected at the water inlet of the lake so that waste and plastic does not enter the lake.

Madras Engineering Group and Centre personnel haul a load of trash fished out from Ulsoor Lake on Saturday | SHRIRAM BN

Govt appeals to SC on BBMP polls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Karnataka government has approached the Supreme Court, challenging the Karnataka High Court's orders on holding Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike elections at the earliest.

A senior government official told The New Indian Express that the state government had approached the Supreme Court, challenging the High Court order. "The government does not want to hold elections. So, it has approached the apex body seeking more time. Even though the corporation and election commission said that they were ready to hold the elections, the government was not convinced and decided to approach court seeking time.

The appeal was filed on December 10 and the case is yet to come up for hearing," the official said.

Recently, the Karnataka High Court had ordered the state government to conduct elections within six weeks from the date of issuing the reservations notification.

The state government held a meeting under the chairmanship of Law Minister J C Madhuswamy on what needs to be done, and it was decided to approach the Supreme Court.

A senior BBMP official said: "It was ideal to hold elections now with 198 wards as the exercise of proper division of all wards would take time. However, the government is keen that the division and elections be completed together. The state government approached the Supreme Court the day the assembly session passed the BBMP Bill. Since the other MLAs were also keen that the elections be done on the new Act, it was decided to file an appeal seeking more time."

EXPRESS READ

2-wheeler rental firm to add 4K e-scooters

BENGALURU : Bounce, a mobility firm, has said it will add 4,000 more e- scooters by February and will have a 100% electric vehicle fleet by the third quarter of 2021. The number of daily rides rose in the past few months, and Bounce has reached 35% of its pre-Covid numbers. The company has been witnessing a steady week-on-week growth in rides since end-October, the company said. Bounce resumed operations in many cities including Tier II cities such as Hassan, Mysuru, Vijayawada, besides Bengaluru and Hyderabad.

CIVIC SENSE

APARTMENTS TAKE LEAD FOR A BETTER BENGALURU

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

BENGALURU is becoming more and more vertical. And apartment communities have come together to 'reimagine a better Bengaluru'. The Bangalore Apartments' Federation's two-day flagship event kicked off online on Saturday.

In the past few months, the advent of Covid-19 has provided an opportunity for apartments to display resilience in preventing community spread and responding proactively to people affected by the pandemic. Appreciating their efforts, Deputy Chief Minister Dr C N Ashwath Narayana called upon the apartments to play a key role in the development of the city. He was speaking at the annual event of the BAF's 'Bengaluru Apartments – Making Bengaluru Operationally Outstanding and Sustainable' (BAMBOOS).

"More and more residents will live in apartments in the years to come. At present, about 10 lakh people live in BAF's communities. The federation has played a major role in collaborating with the government during Covid times too," he said.

He lauded the federation for its involvement in finding solutions to issues pertaining to waste water treatment, property title deeds and documentation among others. "The government is also facilitating progress and is trying to ensure timely action against issues put forth by the associations," he added.

Vidya Goggi, vice president, BAF, told TNIE, the two-day event will continue to have representatives from government, bureaucracy, civic agencies, expert groups, non-profit organisations, media, management committees of apartments and residents to reimagine a better Bengaluru through panel discussions.

RERA-K secretary K S Latha Kumari, one of the speakers, said Bengaluru's expansion should be done in the right way. It is important to develop the city for both ease of business and ease of living. Lung space should be maintained. She cautioned builders against diverting land from lung space.

Streetlights: BBMP gets silver award

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

BRUHAT Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) on Friday received the silver award for Energy Efficient Streetlighting in Bengaluru, under the best public private partnership category.

The Partnerships Award 2020 was announced in the United Kingdom, and winners chosen by a jury of 80.

BBMP Commissioner N Manjunatha Prasad said that this is the first time the corporation has got the award for a PPP initiative. He said that it is a 30-month project, during which the BBMP and private firms would change streetlights to LED lights. So far, one lakh streetlights have been converted to LED lights, and in the next four months, another one lakh lights will be changed.

This way, every six months one lakh streetlights would be replaced with LED lights. The company is investing Rs 1,100 crore on the project. The initiative will save around 85% of the Rs 20 crore the BBMP spends every month on electricity bills for streetlighting.

Prasad said that the jury evaluated a project on 10 parameters such as efficiency, involvement of stake holders and the impact on society, to choose the winner.

The Karnataka State Legal Services Authority (KSLSA) has directed all District Legal Services Authorities to organise a Mega Lok Adalat either physically or via video conference on December 19, 2020. Around 2.48 lakh cases of the 19.81 lakh pending in the state have been identified for settlement in the adalat

STARK MILESTONE

K'taka Covid tally crosses nine lakh

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

ON Friday, the state crossed 9 lakh positive cases, after recording 1,203 new cases. This brings the tally to 9,00,214 cases since the first case in Karnataka was detected on March 8. The state is also the second highest in terms of discharges in the country.

Although Karnataka's total tally has crossed nine lakh, the number of active cases are 18,254, suggesting that the state has done well in bringing down the number of cases. The number of Covid deaths too have been on the decline. Friday saw only 11 deaths, taking the total deaths to 11,939.

After Maharashtra, Karnataka has the second highest recovery. The total number of recoveries in Maharashtra as of Thursday are 17,49,973, while Karnataka has seen 8,68,471 people recover from the disease, followed by Andhra Pradesh at 8,62,895.

Karnataka's positivity rate in the last seven days has been 1.3%, with Haveri district seeing the highest TPR (2.3%), followed by Hassan (1.8%), Chikkmaglur (1.7%), Uttara Kannada (1.6%) and Bengaluru Urban (1.6%). The state's overall Case Fatality Rate is 1.3% but Dharwad district has the highest at 2.8%, followed by Bidar at 2.4%, Dakshina Kannada at 2.3%.

'Govt all set to tackle Covid second wave; not everyone needs vaccine'

'Centre plans to vaccinate 30cr people in Phase-1, those vaccinated may need booster shot'

ASHWINI M SRIPAD @Bengaluru

SUNDAY INTERVIEW

As the mercury levels are dipping, there is a serious threat of Covid second wave in the state. Health Minister **Dr K Sudhakar,** however, said that the government is well prepared to take on the challenge. On the Covid vaccine, he said that the entire population in the state may not need it. Here are the excerpts:

There is a fear of Covid second wave, and has it already started? What are the preparations made?
The state is well prepared for a possible second wave. Ten district hospitals and 30 taluk hospitals have been allocated Rs 37.72 crore to procure oxygen generators and other equipment. We have held detailed discussions within the task force committee on the steps to be taken to contain the spread over the next three months. Also, Rs 11.32 crore has been set aside to purchase rapid antigen kits and Rs 22.50 crore to source medicines for the next 90 days.

When can we expect the vaccine? Is there a timeline for its delivery and do frontline warriors get it first? Will everyone eventually get it?
Multiple vaccine candidates are in different stages of development. Globally, approximately 50 candidates are at clinical research stage and 25 vaccines in advanced clinical trial stage, including five in India. We do not know who will get the licence, as meeting scientific and regulatory requirements is a must. The vaccine may require 2-3 doses with an interval of 3-4 weeks. As per WHO guidelines, frontline workers in health and social care settings, people over 65 years old and those below 65 but with underlying conditions that put them at a higher risk of death are the priority, in that order. As per provisional plan for phase one of vaccination, the Union Government is planning to vaccinate 30 crore people (600 million doses) which includes one crore healthcare workers, two crore frontline workers, 26 crore aged above 50 years and one crore aged below 50 years with comorbidities. Not everyone may need the vaccine. Even the length of protection is uncertain and a booster dose may be required after some time.

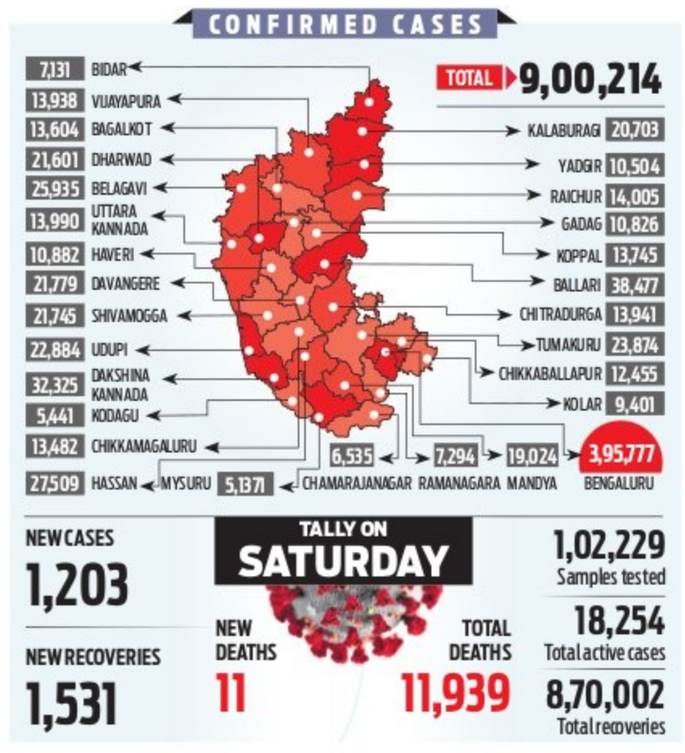
How do you ensure that the vaccine is safe and of good quality?
Vaccines which are under development are undergoing clinical trials as per regulatory requirements. The safety of citizens is the utmost priority to the government. There will be no compromise on meeting the regulatory requirements.

Who pays for the vaccine – the Centre or states?
The question does not arise as we do not know which vaccine will get the licence and what will be the cost.

Many who participated in the Sira and RR Nagar bypolls tested positive for Covid. Experts warn that Gram Panchayat elections will take the virus to rural parts of the state.
Gram Panchayat polls involve intense campaigning where candidates and workers visit houses multiple times. Given that the winter is setting in, the next three months are crucial. Considering these factors, the technical advisory committee had recommended postponing of local body elections, but the State Election Commission decided to go ahead. The government will take all precautions to ensure that polls don't spread the infection. I also appeal to all parties, candidates and workers to follow precautions and cooperate with the government.

Now that the New Year is coming, how will you deal with crowds?
The public celebration of New Year's Eve will not be allowed on MG Road and Brigade Road in Bengaluru or anywhere else in the state. The government has restricted the number of people for the New Year, religious and other events to under 200 between December 20 and January 2. Pubs, bars and hotels should use only half of their seating capacity for the New Year as there is a threat of second wave of Covid.

Most families are celebrating weddings and other events without restrictions.
The government has issued a notification that businesses, like hotels, malls, theatres, restaurants and shops, will be penalised if there is a violation of Covid protocols on their premises.



EXPRESS READ

No Covid-19 deaths in Tumakuru for a month

Tumakuru: There have been no Covid-related deaths in Tumakuru district for over a month, official figures show. The death toll has remained 262 since November 11. A 65-year-old person from Dandinashivara village in Turuvekere taluk who was Covid positive died on Saturday due to other complications at Siddaganga hospital. As many as 31 new cases were reported in the district, taking the tally to 22,610 cases. With 46 people discharged after recovery, the total recoveries stand at 21,735. The number of people in ICU is also low. Of 438 active cases in the district, 16 people are in ICU, including 13 at the designated Covid hospital and three in private hospitals. **ENS**

ON THE FRONTLINE

A health worker finishes up after collecting samples from passersby at a clinic in Majestic, Bengaluru, on Saturday | MEGHANA SASTRY

Immunisation programme to be done in 'election mode'

RAMKRISHNA BADSESHI
@Kalaburagi

SENSITISATION about the Covid-19 vaccine will begin in Kalaburagi district in accordance with the Central and State governments' directives, and the immunisation programme against the disease will be undertaken in "election mode".

Anticipating that the vaccine will be available by the second half of January or February, senior health officers of all districts have been directed to begin sensitising people in a week, according to Dr Anil Talikoti, World Health Organisation representative for Kalaburagi, Bidar, Raichur and Yadgir districts, and Kalaburagi District Health Officer Dr Rajashekar Male, who spoke to The New Indian Express. Similar programmes will held for the media too, from next week.

They said that task force committees would be formed at the district, city corporation, and taluk levels to organise the programmes on a mass scale.

When the vaccine is available, frontline health workers including doctors in both public and private institutions, auxilliary nurses and midwives (ANMs), all staff at hospitals and medical colleges, would be immunised first. The data of these workers has already been collected and will be uploaded on the Cowin in a few days. Official data shows Kalaburagi district has 16,712 frontline workers of which 8,173 are employed with the government and 8,539 with the private sector.

Police and armed forces personnel, Home Guards, civil defence personnel, and municipal workers will be vaccinated in the second phase and authorities of these departments have been asked to collect staff details so that it can be uploaded on to the Cowin platform.

In the third phase, people above the age of 50 and those below 50 who have comorbidities will receive the vaccine.

Election Mode

Dr Talikoti said that the immunisation programme would be carried out similar to how elections are conducted. After districts receive the vaccine doses, beneficiaries of the first phase will receive SMSes telling them the date, time and venue for vaccination.

Each vaccination centre will have a capacity of immunising 100 people and would have three rooms. Beneficiaries would first go to the waiting room after showing their identity to a Group D employee. They would then go to the vaccination room to get the shot, after which they would get an acknowledgement message on their phones. Next, the beneficiary would go to the observation room for about half an hour to watch for adverse reactions. Each person would receive two shots of the vaccine, spread over three weeks, Dr Talikoti and Dr Male said.

Government of India
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
Advertisement No. 03/2020 (R-V)

SELECTION OF JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS
Last date for receipt of Application : 15/01/2021

BARC invites applications from interested students for the award of *JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP* at this Centre.

All the selected candidates will register for Ph.D. in Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI) a deemed to be University of Department of Atomic Energy.

No. of Fellowships : 105 (Indicative)

Qualification : M.Sc. or Integrated M.Sc. (Physics / Chemistry / Life Sciences)

Selection Procedure : Candidates will be shortlisted for interview based on their academic performance and valid score obtained in the following qualifying examinations :- (i) UGC-CSIR-NET Fellowship (SLET/ Lecturership is not eligible) (ii) JEST score (iii) ICMR –JRF Test, ICAR-JRF Test (iv) DBT-JRB Biotechnology Eligibility Test (v) GATE Score 2019/2020 in Physics / Chemistry / Life Sciences/Biotechnology

Final selection will be based on the performance in interview. Stipend :- ₹ **31,000/-** plus HRA ₹ **7,440/- per month** (if accommodation not provided) and in addition Contingency grant :- ₹ **40,000/-** per annum.

Applications will be accepted **On-Line ONLY**. Facility for On-line application will be available from **18/12/2020 to 15/01/2021**. For further details visit our website : **recruit.barc.gov.in** / **www.barc.gov.in**

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client has proposed to purchase the site morefully described in the schedule hereunder from **Sri. K.T. Balakrishna,** S/o. Late K.C. Thimme Gowda, and **Smt. H.R. Chethana,** W/o. K.T. Balakrishna, both are residing at No.390, "Chethana" Maruti Temple Street, T.K. Layout, Mysuru -570009. If any person having any manner of right, title, interest, share or claim whatsoever over the schedule property may file their objections in writing to the undersigned, within **FIFTEEN DAYS** from the date of this publication, along with documentary proof after that, we treat that, have no claims/objections in respect of the schedule property, and proceed to purchase the same.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing **Site No.314,** formed by the **Bangalore Development Authority in Block II, Matadahalli Extension, Bangalore-560032,** measuring East to West 12.19+11.50/2 meters and North to South 18.28 meters, in all totally measuring 2214 sq feet, & building thereon, and bounded on :-

East By : Site No.315
West By : Road
North By : Site No.313
South By : Road

Dr. P.M. Narayanaswamy, Advocate, No.32, 3rd Floor, Adjacent to St. Jude Church,CBI Road, Ganganagar, Bangalore - 560 032.

IN THE COURT OF THE PRINCIPAL CIVIL JUDGE AND J.M.F.C. AT HOSKOTE
C.Misc. No. 181/2019

BETWEEN : 1. SRI. NARAYANSWAMY, S/o late Muniyappa, aged about 43 years, **2. SMT. RATHNAMMA,** D/o late Muniyappa, aged about 48 years, **3. SMT. THULASAMMA,** D/o late Muniyappa, aged about 46 years, **4. SMT. SARASWATHAMMA,** D/o late Muniyappa, aged about 40 years, All are R/at Injanahalli Village, Jadigenahalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District. ...**Petitioner**

THE TAHSILDAR/REGISTRAR, Birth and Death, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District ...**Respondent**

GENERAL PUBLIC NOTICE

The above named petitioner has filed the above petition seeking direction to the respondent authority to enter the name of one **MUNIYAPPA S/o MUNITHIMMARAYAPPA,** The father of the petitioners who died on 18.04.1981 at Injanahalli Village, Jadigenahalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk., in the birth and death register. Since the above matter is posted for **29.01.2021.** Before the court of principal civil judge and J.M.F.C Court at Hoskote. Therefore any person interested may appear before the court on the said date either in person or Advocate, failing which the matter will be disposed on exparte.

Given under my hand and seal of the court on 10.12.2020.

By Order of the Court, Sheristedar, Civil Judge & JMFC at Hoskote.

Address of the Advocate : **RAVI .N**
No. 5th A Cross, I.B Road, Hoskote Town, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural Dist.

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E-AUCTION SALE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Sub Rule 6 of Rule 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower and Guarantor that the below described immovable property mortgaged / charged to the Bank of India, the Symbolic/constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Bank of India, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **29.12.2020** at **11.00 am to 12.00 noon** for Recovery of **Rs.51,73,568.90 (Rupees Fifty one lakhs seventy three thousand five hundred sixty eight and ninety paisa)** along with further interest there on compounded with monthly rests and all costs, charges and expenses incurred and due to Bank of India from **Mr. Gopinath E S/o Kambarama,** #167, D Block, Champion reef, Kolar Gold Field, Bangarpet, Kolar – 563117.

Reserve Price: Rs.45,00,000/- (Rupees Forty Five Lakhs)
EMD: Rs.4,50,000/- (Rupees Four Lakh Fifty Thousand)

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS: All that piece and parcel of the residential Flat bearing Flat No. TF-2, 3rdFloor, MSR Nigam Apartment, Site No. 115, Old Khatha No. 150, BBMP Khatha No. 597/4548/2516/115/150, PID No. 130-M0099-163, situated at Nagadevanahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore – 560056, with 1350 sq.ft. of super built up area, 300 sq.feet of undivided right, title and interest in land, together with one covered car parking, including proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, staircase, owned by **Mr. Gopinath E** and property is **Bounded on: East by :** Road, **West by :** Site no.116, **North by :** Site no.114, **South by :** Road.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in IBA website i.e. **https://ibapi.in**

Date : 11.12.2020
Place : Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Bank of India

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Retail Assets Central Processing Centre-II, Koramangala
No.12, 7th Main, 3rd Block, Koramangala
Bengaluru-560034, Tel:080-25943803, Fax:080-25943805
Email: maintracpc2.ban@sbi.co.in

POSSESSION NOTICE

Under Rule 8(1) (For immovable property)
A/c.No: 64191200481/ 64191200946/ YLR/40027/HL/229

WHEREAS, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the State Bank of India, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (No. 3 of 2002) issued a Demand Notice dated **06.01.2020** calling upon the borrower: **Sri.N.Manjunatha** S/o.Narayana Reddy and **Smt.N.Bhagya** W/o. N.Manjunatha to repay the amount mentioned in the notice **Rs.46,46,589/-** (Rupees Forty Six Lakhs Forty Six Thousand Five Hundred and Eighty Nine only) as on 05.01.2020 and with future interest & expenses thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers/guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 and 9 of the said rules on **10.12.2020.**

The borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India for an amount of **Rs.51,96,820/-**(Rupees Fifty One Lakhs Ninety Six Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty only) as on 09.11.2020 and interest + expenses thereon.

The borrowers/ mortgagor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of house property bearing Site No.18, Municipal No.341, Property No.1229/18, Sy.No. 569, conversion order No.ALNSR75/1982-83, Khatha No.341/1229/18 measuring 12.20 x 12.50 mtrs consisting of Ground & First Floor, situated at Sharadhamma Layout, Ward 8, Anekal Town, Bengaluru, standing in the name of Sri.N. Manjunatha, bounded on : East by : Road, West by : Site No.14 & 15, North by : Site 19, South by : Site No.17.

Place : Bengaluru
Date: 10.12.2020

Sd/- Authorised Officer
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Calling Siddaramaiah a liar, RDPR Minister K S Eshwarappa said the Opposition leader had earlier said that Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa would be changed after byelections as he had received a message from Delhi.

AUCTION WILL LEAD TO ACTION

Bidding for gram panchayat seats will lead to candidates being deported: Poll panel chief | Violators can be booked under Karnataka Gram Swaraj and Panchayat Act | Villagers use money raised to take up renovation of a temple or a school: Official

ASHWINI M SRIPAD @Bengaluru

AS reports of Gram Panchayat seats being auctioned even before the elections are pouring in from across the state, the State Election Commission has warned that such candidates will be deported from panchayat limits and will be disqualified after the election.

Karnataka State Election Commissioner B Basavaraju said each district has one or two such incidents. "I have directed concerned deputy commissioners to book cases against candidates and also those involved. I have approached the DG&IGP to give us police help if required," he said.

It is not the first time that such auctioning has occurred, he said. "But this is the first time they have gone viral on social media sites. During the last Gram Panchayat elections, smartphones and social media were not widely used in villages. But in these polls, people are recording such auctions and putting them up on social media. This is helping us get proof and that is why we have registered a large number of cases," he added.

The commission has proposed to disqualify candidates who have won unanimously by paying money. The violators can be booked under the Karnataka Gram Swaraj and Panchayat Act as well as People Representation Act.

Basavaraju said that if villagers witness such auctions, they should file a complaint with the returning officer at their panchayat, or the tahsildar or the deputy commissioner. The state has reported at least 25 such incidents and most of them are from Tumakuru, Kolar, Chikkaballapura, Kalaburgi, Bidar, Mandya, Ballari, Yadgir and Raichur.

"Villagers themselves fix an amount for the auction and it varies for general category, SC/ST and women seats. It starts from Rs 50,000 and goes up to Rs 1 crore. An understanding between the candidates and villagers, and also the threat of being excommunicated within the village stops villagers from reporting such incidents to the authorities. Also, villagers use the money raised to take up renovation of a temple or a school or make provisions for drinking water, etc," a senior State Election Commission official, requesting anonymity, told *The New Sunday Express*.

Elections will be held to 5,762 Gram Panchayats in two phases -- December 22 and December 27, where 2.96 crore people are eligible to cast their franchise to elect 92,121 members. At least four lakh people are expected to contest in this election extravaganza.

UNDER THE HAMMER

TUMAKURU: Paduvagere Panchayat of Kunigal taluk

KALABURAGI: Belvara Panchayat of Yadrami taluk

KOLAR: Madderi Panchayat of Huttur taluk

BALLARI: Byluru Panchayat of Kurgodu taluk

CHAMARAJANAGAR: Gowdahalli Panchayat of Yellanduru taluk

> *I have directed deputy commissioners concerned to book cases against candidates and also those involved. I have approached the DG&IGP to give us police help if required*
>
> B Basavaraju, Karnataka SEC

> *An understanding between candidates and villagers, and also the threat of being excommunicated within the village stops villagers from reporting such incidents to the authorities*
>
> State Election official

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

GP seat goes for Rs 1 crore for village deity's sake?

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @Tumakuru

WHILE several Gram Panchayat seats are being auctioned across the state, this one could be the biggest of them all.

A video from Bettahalli village under the Paduvagere Gram Panchayat limits in Kunigal taluk is creating ripples in social media sites, as a general seat has allegedly gone for Rs 1 crore. A Bengaluru-based industrialist is said to have promised the villagers that he would pay the money for the renovation of Pattalamma temple in the village.

Zilla Panchayat CEO Shubha Kalyan during her visit to Bettahalli village speaks to residents outside the Pattalamma temple on Friday | EXPRESS

The suspicion of auctioning all the three seats, including the one reserved for SC (woman) and another for ST (woman), arose when banners came up around the village mentioning the estimated cost of the temple's renovation at Rs 1.35 crore.

For the general category seats, two aspirants -- Jayaram and Shekar – filed their nominations and do not face much competition. For the other two seats, one person each has filed the nomination and will get elected unanimously. "Both Jayaram and Shekar hail from the village, but are residents of Bengaluru. Jayaram has been made a trustee of the temple," sources said.

Assistant Commissioner Ajay visited the village on Saturday and filed a report, saying there was no such auction. "We have collected the PAN cards of all the four candidates and the account details of the temple's trust. If we find anything illegal, action will be taken," he said.

Villagers reportedly told him, "Jayaram cannot grab the seat with such high stakes. But Shekar, who is politically influential, spread rumours as he was jealous of the former winning people's favour."

Zilla Panchayat CEO Shubha Kalyana too clarified that there was no auction.

Villagers in Kodi to boycott elections

PRAKASH SAMAGA @Udupi

VILLAGERS of Kodi Gram Panchayat in Udupi district have decided to boycott the local body election, protesting against the jetty work being stopped at Kodi Kanyana within the panchayat limits.

Residents of Kodi Kanyana, Kodi Thale, Kodi Hosabengre and Kodi Bengre, all part of the panchayat, refused to give in when Deputy Commissioner G Jagadish, along with a group of officials, met them and requested them to take part in the electoral process, saying officials will look into their issues.

Boats docked at the Kodi Kanyana jetty

Fishermen from Kodi Kanyana have been facing problems because of silt that has accumulated at the jetty as several boats have capsized at the docking point, affecting their livelihoods. In 2017, the Central and State governments allocated Rs 6 crore for dredging work at the jetty, and Yojaka India Pvt Ltd, a Mangaluru-based company, bagged the contract. But it abruptly stopped the work midway and now, the Udupi district department of ports and fisheries has initiated action against the company.

The villagers also cited the problem of saltwater entering fields in Kodi Kanyan and surrounding areas. "More than hundred acres of land, where paddy, urad and groundnuts are grown, are facing this issue," said Laxman Suvarna, a local.

On Friday, three nominations were filed as it was the last day to do so. Twelve contestants had earlier surrendered their nomination forms to the returning officer, saying they will not contest as the villagers were boycotting the election.

BROTHERS BID FOR WIVES

Mysuru: Close on the heels of the arrest of 10 people over the auctioning of three panchayat seats at Lalanakere in Nagamangala, a panchayat seat was auctioned for Rs 4.5 lakh in Byranahalli. Interestingly, two brothers, who were keen to get their wives elected, bid for the panchayat seat in the auction held near a temple in the presence of forty villagers. Byranahalli village has about 70 households. The panchayat seat is reserved for women (2 A) category. The bid started with a base price of Rs 2.5 lakh and was finalised for Rs 4.5 lakh a day before the last date for withdrawal of nominations. ENS

EAGLE EYE

As KSRTC buses started running from Saturday morning, a bus heading for Mysuru from Bengaluru was escorted by the police | SHRIRAM BN

GOVERNMENT, TRANSPORT EMPLOYEES HARDEN STAND

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

AS the strike by the employees of the state-owned transport corporations entered third day on Saturday, the protestors and the state government hardened their positions. While employees have decided to intensify their agitation, Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa and Transport Minister Laxman Savadi asked them to first call off the agitation and then come for talks.

Employees of the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation, Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation, North West Karnataka Road Transport Corporation and North Eastern Karnataka Road Transport Corporation have been on strike since Thursday demanding salaries on par with state government staff.

Meanwhile, the government is making alternative arrangements to operate buses with the help of private drivers from Sunday.

Yediyurappa along with Savadi, Social Welfare Minister B Sriramulu, Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai and BMTC MD Shika met in the evening to discuss the developments.

Later, speaking to reporters, Savadi said a meeting had been called with the office-bearers of various unions at 10 am on Sunday. "We have informed them over the phone. We will listen to their demands. Considering our financial limitations, we will try and fulfil their demands. This will be conveyed to the Chief Minister. We cannot agree to all their demands as the employees of other corporations will also demand the same," he said.

"I have directed Transport Minister Laxman Savadi to sort out the issue at the earliest," Yediyurappa said. "It is unfortunate that the employees of the various transport corporations have gone on strike causing inconvenience to commuters," he added.

The CM said Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha (KRRS) president Kodihalli Chandrashekar, who is among the farmer leaders spearheading the farmers agitation in the state, has been instigating transport corporation employees to stage protests.

Ananda, one of the leaders of the transport unions federation, said, "We are not here to wage a war against the government. We want our employees to be treated on par with government employees for all benefits," he said.

Commuters were stranded across the state as all state-owned corporations withdrew services. According to KSRTC officials, 37 buses, including four on Saturday, were damaged in stone pelting. On Saturday, at 6 pm, KSRTC operated 170 buses, while BMTC operated 126.

CM B S Yediyurappa, Deputy CM Laxman Savadi, and Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai hold a meeting with KSRTC officials on the ongoing strike in Bengaluru on Saturday

HDK hits out at Cong

JDS leader H D Kumaraswamy hit out at the Congress for accusing the regional party of joining hands with the BJP in passing the Land Reforms Bill in the Legislative Council. "Former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah made several allegations against me for supporting the Bill in the council and questioned our commitment to protecting farmers' interests. If he can prove these allegations, I will retire from politics," he said. The JDS leader also quashed rumours over the regional party merging with any other party. "We will continue to fight to protect farmers and there will be no compromise on that," he added.

KPCC chief D K Shivakumar addresses BMTC employees in Bengaluru on Saturday | ASHISHKRISHNA HP

Congress, JDS back protesting staffers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

OPPOSITION Congress has extended its support to the ongoing agitation by the transport corporation employees, while the JDS asked the employees to call off the agitation to avoid inconveniencing the general public.

Former Chief Minister and JDS leader H D Kumaraswamy said that transport corporation employees should call off the agitation and resolve the issue by holding talks with the government. The former CM also asked the state government to invite the employees for talks to end the agitation.

Congress state unit president D K Shivakumar said the party will support the protesting employees who are demanding the government to consider them as the state government employees. Shivakumar and other Congress leaders visited the protesting employees at Banashankari bus station in Bengaluru on Saturday afternoon.

"The government has failed to respond to your concerns but the Congress will extend full support to your agitation," he said. Shivakumar said if the Congress comes to power, employee representatives will be part of the governing board.

Council to meet on Tuesday, to move no-trust motion

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Legislative Council meeting that was adjourned on Thursday will resume for one day on December 15. A notification to this effect was issued by Legislative Council Secretary K R Mahalakshmi on Saturday.

On Thursday, Council Chairman Prathap Chandra Shetty adjourned the proceedings sine die and BJP MLCs had approached Governor Vajubhai Vala on Friday, requesting him to reconvene the session to complete the pending business.

The 75-member council has 31 BJP MLCs, Congress 29 and JDS 14. The Assembly passed the Karnataka Prevention of Slaughter and Preservation of Cattle Bill 2020 on Wednesday. It was supposed to be tabled in the Council the next day, but the ruling BJP changed its plans, fearing that the Council chairman would refer it to the Joint Select Committee which would delay the implementation further. They planned to issue an ordinance instead.

BJP sources said that they have two issues -- passing of anti-cow slaughter bill and tabling a no-confidence motion against the Chairman. "JDS members are not backing us on the anti-cow slaughter bill, but they will support us in moving the no-confidence motion,'" they said.

The JDS is said to have requested the ruling party to make senior MLC Basavaraj Horatti the council chairman for supporting the BJP, but a section of JDS members is opposed to the idea, sources said. The BJP has suggested senior MLC Aynur Manjunath, Arun Shahpur and Tejaswini Gowda for the post.

"Once the chairman is removed, we can pass the anti-cow slaughter bill anytime. We can bring in an ordinance now, and table the bill during the next session," the sources said.

Senior BJP MLC Ravikumar said they will pressurise the chair to move the no-confidence motion on Tuesday.

A NEW HOPE

Adivasis eye panchayat power, chant growth mantra

K SHIVA KUMAR @Mysuru

WITH the stage set for the Gram Panchayat polls in two phases on December 22 and 27, the Adivasi population has geared up to participate in the festival of democracy. What has brought the community together is the recent agitation demanding the implementation of the Forest Rights Act.

The act aims to recognise and provide ownership and land-use rights to forest-dwelling STs and other traditional forest dwellers at the individual and community level. But several states, including Karnataka, are yet to implement it in its true spirit.

In Hunsur subdivision, the Adivasi population is about 40,000, covering 215 hadis in 140 panchayats and a voice to reckon with. Though in the past the village heads and landlords finalised the candidates and got them elected unopposed, the ground situation has changed now. These sleepy tribal hadis are now the centre of negotiations as many have thrown their hat into the poll ring. The elections have turned prestigious as women and also a few educated youths in the Adivasi community want to contest the seats reserved for ST.

Barring one or two getting elected unopposed in Nereale Kuppe panchayat, there are more than two candidates in the tribal-dominated Uamthur, Doddahejjur, Sarala Kuppe, Kerangur and Dharmapur panchayats in Hunsur taluk.

Buddakattu Krishikara Samithi president P K Ramu said that it is good to see many candidates in the fray in the Adivasi-dominated panchayat areas. He said that many youths who completed D.Ed and skills training courses have entered the fray for the first time with an objective of developing the tribal hadis.

Sreekanth, convenor, DEED (an NGO), said that the tribals have chances of winning about 70 seats out of the 140 reserved for STs in Hunsur subdivision. Increased awareness and unity has inspired many to contest this time.

Though a clear picture on the number of contestants will emerge after the withdrawal of nominations, the candidates who have filed papers have taken up campaigning on WhatsApp groups and social media. They have pledged to provide better roads, build pressure for the implementation of the Forest Rights Act and get Revenue village status for the tribal hadis.

A BBMP senior health inspector was arrested by the ACB while he was allegedly receiving a bribe to issue a trade licence. VR Praveen Kumar, posted at the BBMP Mallasandra ward, was arrested. A resident of Mallasandra had planned to open an oil mill, and had applied for a trade licence in BBMP Mylasandra ward office. The accused had allegedly sought a bribe to issue the licence.

Police personnel disperse a crowd that had gathered in front of Wistron's iPhone facility near Kolar on Saturday | EXPRESS

Govt: Will protect investors' interests, workers' rights

State mulls strict measures to prevent Wistron-like incidents

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE State Government on Saturday condemned the violent protest by employees at Taiwanese firm Wistron's facility at Narasapura Industrial Area in Kolar district while also assuring workers of protecting their rights.

"No one can accept this sort of incident and it cannot be tolerated," said Deputy CM and IT/BT Minister Dr C N Ashwath Narayan. Workers at the iPhone manufacturing plant resorted to violent protest allegedly due to delay in getting salaries.

"The incident at the Wistron plant is unfortunate and unacceptable. The government is committed at conducting a full and fair investigation into the incident and punish the wrongdoers," said Industries Minister Jagadish Shettar.

Ashwath Narayan said the situation is under control and the issue will be resolved soon. The investigation has begun and the government will look into the actual reason behind the protest. "The government will do the needful to ensure that the situation is resolved expeditiously and that the concerns of all stakeholders are allayed," he added.

The Deputy CM said they will also look into the workers' complaints about the delay in payment and salary cuts. "We will ensure that all workers' rights are duly protected and all their dues are cleared," he said, adding that if workers were facing any such issues, they should have taken it up with the Labour Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner. Taking the law into their own hands cannot be justified, he said.

Shettar said the government will give necessary protection to the company. "The State Government has taken steps to develop industries in the state and is also committed to the protection of the worker's rights. The problem could have been resolved if it had been adequately addressed as per law," he said.

Stating that the government is ready to provide adequate protection to companies that have invested in the state, Shettar said stringent measures will be taken to prevent such unpleasant events from recurring.

Karnataka is a peaceful state, which has always welcomed foreign investors and investment and provided them with a peaceful and friendly environment for business – Jagadish Shettar, Industries Minister

Matter should have been brought to our notice: DC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

WHEN contacted, some of the workers, who did not want to be identified, said they had been ordered to compulsorily work 12 hours for four days in a week. For three extra hours a day, they are compensated with an additional day off. But for the remaining one hour, they were not paid although it was brought to the notice of the labour contractors and the authorities concerned, they claimed.

Kolar Deputy Commissioner Sathyabhama, who visited the facility, told *The New Indian Express* that it is an internal matter. "If the workers had not got their salary dues, they should have brought it to the notice of the Labour Department or the district administration. Damaging company property is not fair and legal action will be initiated against those involved," she noted.

There are allegations that the workers were not paid overtime salaries and Labour Department officials have been instructed to conduct a detailed inquiry with the contractors and submit a report immediately. If the contractors are at fault, action will be taken against them. A notice will also be issued to Wistron Corporation seeking explanation about the delay in disbursing salary dues and also for not bringing the issue to the notice of the district administration, she added.

Central Range Inspector General of Police Semanth Kumar Singh, who visited the Wistron facility, told *TNIE* that a police team has been formed to nab those involved in the incident. So far, about 110 persons have been arrested and four cases, including for robbery and dacoity, have been registered.

Also, three complaints have been lodged by the company and one complaint by the police for obstructing government servants from discharging their duties, he added.

When contacted, a senior official of Wistron Corporation refused to comment on the issue.

Woman kills son for beating baby

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

A 26-year-old woman strangled her six-year-old son to death as he was beating up his two-month-old brother. The incident took place in Pattanagere in RR Nagar police limits on Saturday afternoon.

The police have arrested the mother, identified as Devi, on charges of murdering her son Manish. Devi is married to Teja Ram, and the couple had two sons. The family hails from Rajasthan.

The incident took place at their house around 12.45 pm. Devi, who was reportedly suffering from migraine, found Manish beating the newborn and warned him not to do so. As Manish did not pay heed, Devi hit him and took him to the bedroom, as he started screaming. She allegedly first tried to smother him by forcing a pillow against his face. But as he continued screaming, she took her dupatta and strangled him to death.

"As he stopped moving, she got scared and contacted her husband. When he rushed home, she narrated him the incident. Teja Ram contacted a relative and took the boy in the relative's car to a private hospital, where Manish was declared brought dead. Ram reported the matter to the police," DCP (West) Sanjeev Patil said.

CRIME PATROL

Senior citizen found murdered

Bengaluru: An elderly home-alone man was found dead at his house in Nandagudi police station limits on Friday night. The deceased is Syed Anwar (75). Police said the incident came to light when Anwar's son Zakir found his father dead and the house ransacked. He alerted police, who found that Anwar was strangulated.

Youth hacked to death

Bengaluru: A 26-year old man, who was released from jail recently, was hacked to death by a gang at Saraipalya in Sampigehalli police station limits, on Friday evening. An old rivalry is suspected to have led to the killing. The deceased is Tanveer alias Tannu, who was arrested in an attempt to murder case.

The Nehrunagar Co-operative Bank Limited
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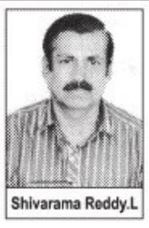
Shivarama Reddy.L

The under signed being the Authorized officer of The Nehrunagar Co-Operative Bank Limited, No.172, 1st Main Road, Seshadripuram, Bangalore-560020, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002 issued a demand notice dated 24.12.2019 calling upon to repay the loan amount of **Rs. 49,03,327/- (Rupees Forty Nine Lakhs Three Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty Seven Only)** as on 24.12.2019 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the entire loan amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public general that the under signed has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on them under section under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 9 of the said rules on this 06th November 2020. The borrowers in particular and the public in general here by cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of The Nehrunagar Co-Operative Bank Limited.

Borrowers: Sri. Shivarama Reddy.L, Dr. Ravichandra.S and Dr. Kirankumar.S Notice dated 24.12.2019. Total Amount Due: Rs. 54,31,208/- (Rupees Fifty Four Lakhs Thirty One Thousand Two Hundred and Eight Only) as on 21.10.2020

Description of property : All that piece and parcel of the Immovable property bearing Flat No.202, 1st Floor, Srinivasa Mansion, formed in old Sy. No. 102/1, New Sy.No. 102/7, Hennur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, Situated at 38th Cross, 19th Main, HBR Layout, 5th, Block, Bengaluru - 560043, having a 1203.75 Square feet and together with one covered car parking space Slot No.202 and having 318.36 Sq.ft undivided interest.

Sd/-
For **The Nehrunagar Co-operative Bank Limited**
Authorized Oficer

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 10-12-2020

BIBLIOPHILES' NEST

Visitors browse through books at a book exhibition, which is part of the 9th Edition of Bengaluru Literature Festival, on Saturday | SHRIRAM BN

Seeking relief repeatedly: HC penalises Yogeshwar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

FORMER minister and BJP MLC **C P Yogeshwar** had to pay the price for repeatedly approaching the Karnataka High Court seeking the same relief --- praying for quashing of proceedings against him, his wife and others. The court has imposed an exemplary cost of Rs 21,000 on him and other petitioners.

The cases relate to the Vajragiri township project launched by Yogeshwar as MD of Megacity (Bengaluru) Developers and Builders Ltd and being probed by the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO).

"Having regard to the conduct of the petitioners in repeatedly approaching this court seeking the very same relief in multifarious proceedings, they are required to be mulcted (a fine or compulsory payment) with exemplary cost. Hence, the petitions are dismissed with a cost of Rs 3,000 in each petition," said Justice John Michael Cunha. Yogeshwar was the common petitioner in all the seven criminal petitions filed by him, his family members and other directors of the firm, seeking to quash the orders of the special court and magistrate court, which rejected their pleas against SFIO proceedings. The other petitioners are Yogeshwar's wife Manju Kumari, his brother C P Gangadhareshwara, P Mahadevaiah, H R Ramesh, Sambashiv Rao and others.

Treat road users politely, but firmly: Pant to traffic cops

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

FROM rash driving of bikes by minors to the brash behaviour of towing staff and encroachment of footpaths in the city, a range of complaints was put before Police Commissioner Kamal Pant by citizens who participated in the 'Sanchara Samparka Divasa' at Whitefield traffic police station on Saturday.

The event also saw people ruing about bottlenecks, parking, and potholes, among others. Pant advised traffic police to deal with road users politely, but firmly.

The Nehrunagar Co-operative Bank Limited
172, 1st Main Road, Seshadripuram, Bangalore - 560 020
Phone : 2336 4376 / 2356 2609 Email : nehrungr@rediffmail.com

POSSESSION NOTICE - IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Sri. Harsha .N

Smt. Sukrutha .N

Vijayanirmala.A

The under signed being the Authorized officer of The Nehrunagar Co-Operative Bank Limited, No.172, 1st Main Road, Seshadripuram, Bangalore-560020, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002 issued a demand notice dated 24.12.2019 calling upon to repay the loan amount of **Rs. 1,02,63,880/- (Rupees One Crore Two Lakhs Sixty Three Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Only)** as on 22.11.2019 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the entire loan amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public general that the under signed has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on them under section under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 9 of the said rules on this 06th November 2020. The borrowers in particular and the public in general here by cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of The Nehrunagar Co-Operative Bank Limited.

Borrowers: Sri.Harsha.N, Smt.Sukrutha.N and Vijayanirmala. A Notice dated 24.12.2019. Total Amount Due: Rs. 1,13,02,803/- (Rupees One Crore Thirteen Lakhs Two Thousand Eight Hundred Three Only as on Date : 21.10.2020.

Description of property : All that piece and parcel of the Immovable property bearing Site No.334, New Municipal No.334/32/21, Situated at 22nd Cross Road, between 1st and 3rd Block, Jayanagar East, Corporation Ward No.60, Bangalore. PID No.60-34-32/21 and New PID No.169- W0080-59. Measuring: East to west 40 Feets and North to South 27+26.6/2 Feets And all ad-measuring passage East to west 5 feet and North to South 30 Feets Bounded on the **East by : Property bearing Old CITB No.335, West by : Property bearing Old CITB No.333, North by : Passage, remaining portion of the property and then Road, South by : Property bearing Old CITB No.73.**

Sd/-
For **The Nehrunagar Co-operative Bank Limited**
Authorized Oficer

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 10-12-2020

STATE BANK OF INDIA
ASSET RECOVERY MANAGEMENT BRANCH

Authorised Officer's Details:
Name Shri. A Suresh
E-mail ID: sbi.40564@sbi.co.in
Mobile No: 9448990277
Landline No.(office): 080-25943765/25943769

Address of the Branch:
Mysore Bank Building, BKG Complex,
'A' Block, 2nd Floor,
Avenue Road, Bengaluru-560 009.
Telephone:080-25943765/25943769
E-MAIL: sbi.40564@sbi.co.in

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

E-auction SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSET UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISO Rule 8 (6) of the security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower, that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured creditor, physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of State Bank of India, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis on **30.12.2020** for recovery of **Rs. 3,21,82,568/-** (Rupees Three crore Twenty one lakhs Eighty two thousand Five hundred and Sixty eight only)**as on 05.12.2020** + interest + expenses and costs, due to State Bank of India, Secured creditor from **M/s. Dwarkamayee Solutions Private Ltd.,** (Borrower) and **Smt. Sindhu S Gowda, Smt. K V Lalitha, Smt Gayathri Hanumanthappa and Shri J N Vasudeva murthy** (Guarantors).
The reserve price, earnest money deposit and bid increment amount and last date for receipt of EMD will be as under:-

Property No.	Reserve Price (Below which the properties will not be sold)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Bid increment amount	Last Date for Submission of EMD
1.	Rs.3,12,00,000/-	Rs.31,20,000/-	Rs.1,00,000/-	29.12.2020

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Tender No: SBI/ARMB/RK/001

Property No. 1 – (Title deed holder: Smt K V Lalitha)
All that part and parcel of the property bearing site No.869-B, situated at 5th Block, 17th G Main, Rajajinagar, Bangalore measuring East to West 60 feet and North to South 40 feet consisting a residential building of Cellar, Ground, First and Second Floors, standing in the name of Smt. K.V.Lalitha. Property bounded on East by: Road, West by: Site No. 870-B, North by: Site No. 869-C, South by: Site No. 869-A.

To the best of knowledge of the Authorised Officer, there is no encumbrance on any of the above said properties. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in www.sbi.co.in i.e., https://bankeauctions.com.

Date: 05.12.2020
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
State Bank of India
ARMB, Bengaluru

The Nehrunagar Co-operative Bank Limited
172, 1st Main Road, Seshadripuram, Bangalore - 560 020
Phone : 2336 4376 / 2356 2609 Email : nehrungr@rediffmail.com

POSSESSION NOTICE - IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Late Ramachandraiah

The under signed being the Authorized officer of The Nehrunagar Co-Operative Bank Limited, No.172, 1st Main Road, Seshadripuram, Bangalore-560020, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002 issued a demand notice dated 04.05.2019 calling upon to repay the loan amount of **Rs. 12,36,085/- (Rupees Twelve Lakhs Thirty Six Thousand Eighty Five Only)** as on 30.04.2019 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the entire loan amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public general that the under signed has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on them under section under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 9 of the said rules on this 06th November 2020. The borrowers in particular and the public in general here by cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of The Nehrunagar Co-Operative Bank Limited.

Borrowers: Late Sri.Ramachandraiah.H, Sri.Hanumantharaju.R, Sri Manjunath.R, and Sri. Ravishankar. Notice Dated 04.05.2019. Totar Amount Due: Rs. 13,79,980/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakhs Seventy Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty only) as on 21.10.2020

Description of property : All that piece and parcel of the Immovable property bearing No. 07, old No.23, New No. 7/3, Situated at IX Main Road,(Madigara Keri) Palace Guttahali, Bangarore-560003, PID No.99-67-7 /3, Measuring: East to west: 25 feets and North to South: 12,.6, feets and Bounded on the : **East by : Munihanumaiah's property and beedi mane Muniyappa's House, West by : Road, North by : Property fallen to Sri Nagaraja, South by : Property failen to the share of the Sri. Rangaswamaiah .H @ Rangaswamy**

Sd/-
For **The Nehrunagar Co-operative Bank Limited**
Authorized Oficer

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 10-12-2020

Office of the Executive Engineer,
Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Jamtara.

Short Term Tender e-Procurement Notice(1st Call)
Tender Reference No.-DWSD/EE/JAMTARA – 02/ DWSD/JMT/2020-21 Date- 11-12-2020

1	Name of the Work	**Detailed Survey,Designing and Drawing, Construction of R.C C. Intake Well cum Pump House, Infiltration Gallery, R.C.C. Gangway 50 M Long and 3.00 M Wide, 1 MLD Capacity Unconventional Water Treatment Plant, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir- 143 Kilo Liter capacity & 18 M Staging, Staff Quarter, Compound Wall, Supplying and Laying Raw and Clear Water Rising Main and Distribution Network, House Connection, Supplying and Installation of VT and Centrifugal Pump Motor and Five Years Operation & Maintenance with all allied works etc. all complete job for Amba& Adjoining Village Rural Pipe Water Supply Scheme under Drinking Water &Sanitataion Division, Jamtara on turnkey basis for the year 2020-2021.**
2	Estimated Cost	**439.30 Lakh**
3	Earnest Money	**4.393 Lakh**
4	Cost of BOQ	**10,000.00**
5	Time of Completion	**21 Months + 3 Months**
6	Date of publication of Tender on Web site	**15.12.2020 / 02:00 PM**
7	Date of pre bid meeting	**22.12.2020 / 11:30 AM held on Office of the Regional Chief Engineer, Drinking Water and Sanitation Department, Dumka Zone, Dumka**
8	Last date /Time for receipt of Bid	**05.01.2021 / 2:00 PM**
9	Last date of submissionofEarnestMoney(Bank Guarantee/T.D.Pass Book/N.S.C) andcostofB.O.Q.	**07.01.2021/ 02:00 PM**
10	Name of Office where receipt of Earnest Money & Cost of B.O.Q.	**1.Office of the Regional Chief Engineer, D.W.&S Department Dumka Zone, Dumka. 2.Office of the Superintending Engineer, D. W. & S. Deoghar Circle, Deoghar. 3.Office of the Executive Engineer, D. W. & S. Division, Jamtara.**
11	Date of Opening of Tender	**07.01.2021 / 04:00 PM**
12	Name & address of office inviting tender	**Executive Engineer, Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Jamtara, Jharkhand**
13	Name & address of Opening officer	**Executive Engineer, Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Jamtara, Jharkhand**
14	Contact No. of Procurement Office	7717776462
15	Helpline No. of e-procurement cell	0651 - 2480345

Note:- No Claim shall be entertained because of disruption of internet service being used by the bidders. Bidders are advised to upload their bids well in advance to avoid last minute technical snags.
Further details can be seen on website http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in.

(Er. Surendra Kumar Dinkar)
Executive Engineer
D.W. & S. Division, Jamtara.

PR 237315(Drinking Water and Sanitation)20-21*D

STATE BANK OF INDIA

RETAIL ASSETS CENTRAL PROCESSING CENTRE (RACPC) – II, KORAMANGALA

Authorised Officer's Details:
Name: **Sri. K. Sreenath**
Chief Manager,
E-mail Id: maintracpc2.ban@sbi.co.in
Mobile No:+91 7338150888.
Land Line No. (Office): 080 -25943803

Address of the Branch:
No.12, 7th Main, 3rd Block,
Koramangala, Bangalore -560 034.
Tel: 080 -25943803,
Fax: 080 -25943800,
E mail: maintracpc2.ban@sbi.co.in

APPENDIX – IV A
[See proviso to Rule 8(6)]
E – AUCTION SALE ON 30.12.2020
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
(EXCLUDING MOVABLE ASSETS, IF ANY, LYING IN THE PREMISES)

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets (excluding movable assets, if any, lying thereon) under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) and 9(1)of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and the below mentioned Borrower(s)/Mortgagor(s) in particular that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, State Bank of India and whose actual physical possession has been taken by the Authorized Officer of the Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on **30.12.2020** for recovery of loan dues to the State Bank of India from the aforesaid Borrower(s)/Mortgagor(s)as specifically mentioned hereunder against their names.

The Name and Address of the Borrower/Mortgagors Outstanding dues, the reserve price, the earnest money deposit (EMD), bid increment and last date for submission of EMD along with KYC documents for the each property of the said Borrower/Mortgagors to be sold will be as under:

(1) Name & Address of the Borrower/ Mortgagor	**Sri.Markandeyulu P.,** S/o. Sri. P.Varadaiah Mandadi, No.45, 2nd Floor, 1st Main, 'C' Cross, Chinnappa Colony, Vijinapura, Opp. FCI, Bengaluru – 560016. **Also at:** Flat No.103, Ground Floor, "URBAN RETREAT",Deepika Elite Layout, Hilalige Village, Attibele Hobli, Near Chandapura, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru -562106. **Office Address:** Sri Markandeyulu P, M/s Intelligent Air Filters India Pvt Ltd., No.402, 3rd Floor, Oxford Chambers, Rustum Bagh Main Road, Bengaluru – 560017.
Outstanding Dues for recovery of which property is being sold	**Rs.49,06,777/-** (Rupees Forty Nine Lakh Six Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Seven Only) as on 09.12.2020 and further interest at contractual rate from 10.12.2020 with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.,

Property No.	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit amount	Bid increment	Time & Date of Auction	Last day for submission of EMD along with KYC documents
1.	Rs.21,00,000/-	Rs.2,10,000/-	Rs.20,000/-	11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on 30.12.2020	28.12.2020 up to 4.00 p.m

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Tender No: SBI-15627/EA/GWR/2020-21/14:
SCHEDULE –'A' PROPERTY: (Entire Layout Property): All that piece and parcel of residential converted property measuring 10 Acres and 2.5 Guntas in the Sy. Nos.22/1, 22/2, 24/2A2, 43/1A and 43/2A situated at Heelagi Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru.
SCHEDULE-'B' PROPERTY: (Entire Apartment Building Property) : All the piece and parcel of residential site bearing No.128 Katha No.1003/226/128 situated at Heelalgi village Attibele Hoblj, Anekal taluk, Bangalore Urban District in the layout known as "DEEPIKA ELITE' measuring East: 114 feet, west 112 feet North: 87 feet and South 86 feet totally measuring 9770 Sq. feet. Formed in Schedule 'A' property and bounded on East by: Road, West by: Private property bearing Sy. No. 44, North by: Road, South by: Site No. 129.
SCHEDULE –'C' PROPERTY(MORTGAGED PROPERTY): All the piece and parcel of residential Flat bearing No.103(Ground Floor) with E-khatha No-150200100600500900 in the Apartment known as "URBAN RETREAT" consisting of Two Bedrooms, a kitchen with utility, dining and living room with balcony measuring 1176 sq. ft. of Super built up area (with Undivided Land Share of 417.48 Sq. feet) and one covered car parking space in the basement floor, the said Flat standing in the name of Sri. P. Markandeyulu S/o. Sri. P. Varadaiah Mandadi, vide Sale Deed dated 14.10.20016, registered as Document No.BSG-1-04273/2016-17 and CD No.BSGD300 dated 14.10.2016 at SRO, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru and bounded on: East by: Open Space, West by: Flat No.104, North by: Corridor, South by: Open Space.

(2) Name & Address of the Borrower/ Mortgagor	**Smt. Nisha S., W/o. Shri. Kumar,** No.58, Chowdeswari Amman Temple Street, Kithaganur, Bidarahalli Hobli, K R Puram, Bengaluru – 560 036, **Also at:** Flat No.101, Ground Floor, **Urban Retreat Apt., Deepika Elite Layout**, Heelalgi Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District, **Office Address:**Employee No. 356214, M/s Cognizant Technology Solutions India Pvt. Ltd., Manyata Embassy Business Park, Nagavara, Bengaluru-560 045.
Outstanding Dues for recovery of which property is being sold	**Rs.49,59,429/-** (Rupees Forty Nine Lakh Fifty Nine Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Nine Only) as on 09.12.2020 and further interest at contractual rate from **10.12.2020** with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.,

Property No.	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit amount	Bid increment	Time & Date of Auction	Last day for submission of EMD along with KYC documents
2.	Rs.20,53,000/-	Rs.2,05,300/-	Rs.20,000/-	11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on 30.12.2020	28.12.2020 up to 4.00 p.m

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Tender No: SBI-15627/EA/GWR/2020-21/15:
SCHEDULE - 'A' PROPERTY : As mentioned above in Property No. 1
SCHEDULE - 'B' PROPERTY : As mentioned above in Property No. 1
SCHEDULE - 'C' PROPERTY : (description of the mortgaged Flat): All that piece and parcel of residential Flat bearing No.101 (Ground Floor) with E- Katha No.150200100600520438 in the Apartment Known as "URBAN RETREAT" consisting of Two Bed Rooms, a Kitchen with utility, dining and living room with balcony measuring 1150 Sq. feet of super built up area (with undivided share of 408.25 Sq. feet) and one covered car Parking space in the basement floor and the said Flat is standing in the name of Mrs. Nisha W/o. Sri Kumar, vide Sale Deed dated 28.12.2016 and registered as Document No.BSG-1-05516/2016-17 and CD No.BSGD303 dated 08.12.2016 at SRO, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru and bounded on: East by : Flat No 102, West by:Open Space, North by: Open Space, South by: Corridor.

(3) Name & Address of the Borrower/ Mortgagor	**Sri Karthik K Prabhu,** S/o. Sri Keshav Prabhu, No.166/5, 7thCross, 4thMain, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru – 560 018. **Also at :** Flat No. 204, **Urban Retreat Apt., Deepika Elite Layout**, Heelalgi Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District, **Office Address: Sri Karthik K Prabhu,** M/s Concentrix Daksh Pvt. Ltd., Manyata Embassy Business Park, Nagawara Outer Ring Road, Bengaluru – 560 045.
Outstanding Dues for recovery of which property is being sold	**Rs.44,29,055/-** (Rupees Forty Four Lakh Twenty Nine Thousand Fifty Five Only) as on **09.12.2020** and further interest at contractual rate from **10.12.2020** with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.,

Property No.	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit amount	Bid increment	Time & Date of Auction	Last day for sub-mission of EMD along with KYC documents
3.	Rs.19,60,100/-	Rs.1,96,010/-	Rs.20,000/-	11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on 30.12.2020	28.12.2020 up to 4.00 p.m

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Tender No: SBI-15627/EA/GWR/2020-21/16:
SCHEDULE - 'A' PROPERTY : As mentioned above in Property No. 1
SCHEDULE - 'B' PROPERTY : As mentioned above in Property No. 1
SCHEDULE –'C' PROPERTY(MORTGAGED PROPERTY): All the piece and parcel of residential Flat bearing No.204 (First Floor) with E-khatha No.150200100600520429 in the Apartment known as **"URBAN RETREAT"** consisting of Two Bedrooms, a kitchen with utility, dining and living room with balcony measuring 1098 sq. ft. of Super built up area (with Undivided Land Share of 389.79 Sq. feet) and one covered car parking space in the basement floor, standing in the name of Mr. Karthik K., S/o. Sri. Keshav Prabhu, vide Sale Deed dated 21.02.2017 and registered as Document No.BSG-1-06959/2016-17 and CD No.BSGD307 dated 21.02.2017 at SRO, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru and bounded on: East by: Flat No.203, West by: Open Space, North by: Corridor, South by: Open Space.

(4) Name & Address of the Borrower/ Mortgagor	**Smt. Vijaya Lakshmi R,** W/o. Sri J S Rajesh, No.43, 1stFloor, Vagdevi Layout, II No. Cross, Munnekolalu, Marathahalli, Bengaluru – 560 037, **Also at**: Flat No.401, Urban Retreat Apartment, Deepika Elite Layout, Hilalagi Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District. **Office Address:** Alti Source Business Solutions (P) Ltd., Pritech Park, Block 12, 3rd Floor, 'A' Wing, Bellandur Village, Sarjapur, Marathahalli, Bengaluru – 560 103.
Outstanding Dues for recovery of which property is being sold	**Rs.42,81,799/-** (Rupees Forty Two Lakh Eighty One Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Nine Only) as on 04.12.2020 and further interest at contractual rate from **05.12.2020** with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.

Property No.	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit amount	Bid increment	Time & Date of Auction	Last day for sub-mission of EMD along with KYC documents
4.	Rs.20,53,000/-	Rs.2,05,300/-	Rs.20,000/-	11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on 30.12.2020	28.12.2020 up to 4.00 p.m

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Tender No: SBI-15627/EA/GWR/2020-21/17:
SCHEDULE - 'A' PROPERTY : As mentioned above in Property No. 1
SCHEDULE - 'B' PROPERTY : As mentioned above in Property No. 1
SCHEDULE - 'C' PROPERTY (description of the mortgaged Flat): All that piece and parcel of residential Flat bearing No.401 (Third Floor) with E- Katha No.150200100600520434 in the Apartment Known as **"URBAN RETREAT"**consisting of Two Bed Rooms, a Kitchen with utility, dining and living room with balcony measuring 1150 Sq. feet of super built up area (with undivided share of 408.25 Sq. feet) and one covered car Parking space in the basement floor, the said Flat standing in the name of Smt. Vijay Lakshmi R., W/o. Sri. Rajesh J. S., vide Sale Deed dated 20.03.2017 and registered as Document No.BSG-1-7520/2016-17 and CDNo.BSGD308 dated 20.03.2017 at SRO, Basavanagudi,Bengaluru and bounded on: East by : Flat No.402, West by: Open Space, North by: Open Space,South by: Corridor.

(5) Name & Address of the Borrower/Mortgagor	**Shri. Somashekar H.,** S/o. Shri. Halappa, No.1295, 11th Cross, Central Township Colony, H A L, Marathahalli, Bengaluru 560 037, **Also at:** Flat No.401, Fourth Floor, **"Siddartha Srinilaya"**, Kammasandra Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru District, **(ii) Office address:** Employee No.68191-97, Structure Assy, Helicoptor Division, Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., Bengaluru – 560 017.
Outstanding Dues for recovery of which property is being sold	**Rs.40,95,794/-** (Rupees Forty Lakh Ninety Five Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Four Only) as on 08.12.2020 and further interest at contractual rate from 09.12.2020 with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.,

Property No.	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit amount	Bid increment	Time & Date of Auction	Last day for submission of EMD along with KYC documents
5.	Rs.18,68,000/-	Rs.1,86,800/-	Rs.20,000/-	11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on 30.12.2020	28.12.2020 up to 4.00 p.m

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Tender No: SBI-15627/EA/GWR/2020-21/18 :
SCHEDULE - 'A' PROPERTY (ENTIRE PROPERTY): All that piece and parcel of residential Immovable Property bearing Converted Sy.No.9/4, Old Gram Panhayat Khatha No.6684/6208/9/4, Now assigned New Panchayat Raj Computerised Khatha No.6608/9/4, with PID No.150200103101106709 (in form No.11B Rule 30(7), converted from Agricultural to Non Agricultural Residential purposes vide its Order No.ALN[A]SR127/2012-13, dated 07.09.2012 and conversion Order issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru District, Bengaluru situated at Kammasandra Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District measuring 0 Acres 5 ½ Guntas and bounded on the : East by: Remaining portion of Sy No.9/4 belongs to Sri T Nagaraju, West by: Government Road, North by: Property of H Muniyapa, South by: Property of Mesa Muniyappa.
SCHEDULE - 'B' PROPERTY : An undivided share right, title and interest in the Schedule - A Property measuring to an extent of 196 Sq. feet.
SCHEDULE - 'C' PROPERTY :(Apartment Mortgaged to the Bank) : All that piece and parcel of residential apartment bearing Flat bearing No.401 in the Fourth Floor of Apartment Building known as **"SIDDARTHA SRINILAYA"** constructed on the Schedule - 'A' Property with Super Built Up Area of 955 Square feet Standing in the name of Sri Somashekar H S/o. Sri Halappa vide Sale Deed dated 01.02.2016 and registered as Document No.CMP-1—8909/2015-16 and CD No.CMPD153 on 01.02.2016 at the Office of the Senior Sub Registrar, Basavanagudi (Chamarajapet), Bengaluru and bounded on the :East by: Flat No. 406, West by: Private Property, North by: Flat No. 402, South by:Private Property.

(6) Name & Address of the Borrower/ Mortgagor	**Sri. Sagar N.,** S/o. Sri. Nagaraj, **"ThibhadeviNilaya"**, No.2, 1st D Cross, Nanjappa Reddy Garden, Chowdeswari Bus Stop, Mathikere, Yeshwanthpur, Bengaluru - 560022. **Also at:** Flat No.402, Fourth Floor, **"SiddarthaSrinilaya"**, Kammasandra Village, Attible Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District. **Office address: Shri N Sagar,** Team Leader, Operations, M/s Infosys BPO Ltd., Electronic City, Hosur Road, Bengaluru – 560100.
Outstanding Dues for recovery of which property is being sold	**Rs.38,84,593/-** (Rupees Thirty Eight Lakh Eighty Four Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Three Only) as on 08.12.2020 and further interest at contractual rate from 09.12.2020 with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.,

Property No.	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit amount	Bid increment	Time & Date of Auction	Last day for submission of EMD along with KYC documents
6	Rs.18,68,000/-	Rs.1,86,800/-	Rs.20,000/-	11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on 30.12.2020	28.12.2020 up to 4.00 p.m

Description of property

Tender No:SBI-15627/EA/GWR/2020-21/19:
SCHEDULE - 'A' PROPERTY: As mentioned above in Property No. 5
SCHEDULE - 'B' PROPERTY:(Description of the undivided share in the land hereby conveyed) An undivided share, right, title and interest in the Schedule -'A' Property measuring to an extent of 196 Sq. ft.
SCHEDULE - 'C' PROPERTY: (Description of the residential apartment hereby conveyed)1. Flat Apartment No.: 402,2. Type of Flat: Residential,3. Floor: Fourth Floor, 4. Super built up area : 955 Sq. feet,5. Details of construction: RCC Roofing, concrete block with Doors with aluminum windows, 6. Other facilities: One covered Car Parking space.7. Name of the Apartment : **"SIDDARTHA SRINILAYA"**
The said Flat standing in the name of Sri. Sagar N., S/o Sri Nagaraj, vide Sale Deed Dated 01.02.2016, registered as Document No.CMP-1-08920/2015-16 and CD No.CMPD153 dated 01.02.2016 at Basavanagudi (Chamarajpet), Bengaluru and bounded on:Boundaries for the Flat:East by: Flat No.405,West by: Road, North by: Flat No.403, South by: Flat No.401.

(7)Name & Address of the Borrower/Mortgagor	**Sri Prabhakar M,** S/o Sri Muniyappa, No.71, 3rd Cross, Mayuravarma Road, Lakshmipura, Kempegowdanagar, Bengaluru - 560019. **Also at:** Flat No. T 16, 3rd Floor, "A" Block, "Prabhavathi Paramount", Sy. No.108/2, Kammasandra Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban Dist. **Office Address:** Store Keeper, Production Dept., M/s BLR Knits Pvt. Ltd., Site No.6/3B, Begur Road, 2nd Cross, Hongasandra, Bengaluru – 560068.
Outstanding Dues for recovery of which property is being sold	**Rs 34,13,130/- (Rupees Thirty Four Lakh Thirteen Thousand One Hundred and Thirty Only) as on 09.12.2020** and further interest at contractual rate from **10.12.2020** with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.,

Property No.	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit amount	Bid increment	Time & Date of Auction	Last day for submission of EMD along with KYC documents
7.	Rs.20,82,000/-	Rs.2,08,200/-	Rs. 20,000/-	11:30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on 30.12.2020	28.12.2020 up to 4.00 p.m

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Tender No: SBI-15627/EA/GWR/2019-20/20:
SCHEDULE - 'A' PROPERTY (Entire Property): All that piece and parcel of a portion of property being converted land measuring 18,513 Sq. feet (0 – 17 Guntas) in Sy No.108/2 (Vide Conversion Certificate bearing O. M. No. BDS.ALN.(A)(SR) 397/2004-05 dated 03.02.2005 issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru Rural District, Bengaluru) situated at Kammasandra Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District and bounded as follows: East by: Road and Land belongs to Gopamma and Hanumanthappa, West by: Land belongs to P Lakshmana, North by: Land belongs to B M Venkatesh, South by: Land belongs to V Ashwathanarayanappa.
SCHEDULE - 'B' PROPERTY: (Mortgaged Property): All that piece and parcel of Flat No.T-16 on the Third Floor in 'A' Block having Super Built Up Area of 790 Sq. feet, consists of One Hall with common Bathroom, One Kitchen, Two Bedrooms(Attached toilet and Bathroom in one bedroom) with balconies, together with one Car Parking space in the basement and with an undivided share of 196 Sq. feet, right, title and interest in the Schedule -'A' property, being the part of the Apartment building known as **"PRABHAVATHI PARAMOUNT"** constructed on the Schedule 'A' Property with RCC framed structure, Concrete Block Masonry and standing in the name of Sri Prabhakar M, S/o Sri Muniyappa vide Sale Deed dated 05.10.2016 and registered as Document No.ANK-1-04429/2016-17 and CD No.ANKD410 on 05.10.2016 at the Office of the Sub Registrar, Anekal, Bengaluru and bounded on the:East by: Flat No.T-15, West by: Open Space/Road, North by: Open Space, South by: Corridor.

(8) Name & Address of the Borrower/ Mortgagor	**Sri Jaishankar N.,** S/o. Sri.Narayanappa, No.E426, 3rd Lane, ITI Quarters, Dooravaninagar, Bengaluru – 560 016, **Also at:** (i) Employee No.78356-60, HAL, Bengaluru -560 017, (ii) No.E-713, 1st Lane, ITI Quarters, Dooravaninagar, Bengaluru – 560 016.
Outstanding Dues for recovery of which property is being sold	**Rs.36,58,088/-** (Rupees Thirty Six Lakh Fifty Eight Thousand Eighty Eight Only) as on **08.12.2020** and further interest at contractual rate from **09.12.2020** with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.,

Property No.	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit amount	Bid increment	Time & Date of Auction	Last day for sub-mission of EMD along with KYC documents
8.	Rs.22,14,000/-	Rs.2,21,400/-	Rs.20,000/-	11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on 30.12.2020	28.12.2020 up to 4.00 p.m

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Tender No: SBI-15627/EA/GWR/2019-20/21:
SCHEDULE - 'A' PROPERTY : As mentioned above in Property No. 7
SCHEDULE - 'B' PROPERTY(MORTGAGED PROPERTY): All that piece and parcel of the Flat No.FF-18 on Fourth Floor in "A" Block having super built up area of **840 Sq. feet,** consisting One Hall with Common Bath Room, One Kitchen, Two Bed Rooms (attached toilet and bathroom in one Bed Room) with balconies, together with One Car Parking space in the basement and with an **undivided share of 206 Sq. feet,** right, title and interest in the Schedule -'A' Property, being the part of the apartment building known as **"PRABHAVATHI PARAMOUNT"** constructed on the Schedule -'A' property with RCC framed structure, concrete Block Masonry, Main door teak frame and Steam Breach Veneered flush shutter and room doors sal woods with water proof flush shutters, Power coated aluminum windows with glass 86 safety grills, Ceramic flooring etc., with wardrobe, kitchen amenities, geyser with TV -Stand, standing in the name of Sri Jayashankar N., S/o. Sri.Narayanappa, Vide Sale Deed dated 02.07.2016 and registered as Document No.ANK-1-02173/2016-17 and CD No.ANKD406 dated 02.07.2016 at Sr. SRO, Anekal, and bounded as follows: East by: Stair Case,West by: Flat No.FF-17,North by: Corridor,South by : Open Space.

(9)Name & Address of the Borrower/Mortgagor	**Shri. D. H. Siddanagoud,** S/o. Shri. Dodda Hanumagoud, No.11, 1st Floor, 19th F Cross, Kaggadasapura, C. V. Raman Nagar Post, Bengaluru 560 093, **Also at:** Flat No.FF-17, "Prabhavathi Paramount", Kammasandra Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District, **Office address:** Employee No.R 762- 16275, Grade: S-3, B E M L, New Thippasandra, Bengaluru – 560 075.
Outstanding Dues for recovery of which property is being sold	**Rs.31,37,600/- (Rupees Thirty One Lakh Thirty Seven Thousand Six Only)** as on **08.12.2020** and further interest at contractual rate from **09.12.2020** with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc.,

Property No.	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit amount	Bid increment	Time & Date of Auction	Last day for submission of EMD along with KYC documents
9.	Rs.21,48,000/-	Rs.2,14,800/-	Rs. 20,000/-	11:30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on 30.12.2020	28.12.2020 up to 4.00 p.m

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Tender No: SBI-15627/EA/GWR/2019-20/22:
SCHEDULE - 'A' PROPERTY: As mentioned above in property No. 7
SCHEDULE - 'B' PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of Flat No.FF 17 on the Fourth Floor in A Block having Super Built Up Area of 815 sq. feet, consists of One Hall with common Bathroom, One Kitchen, Two Bedrooms (Attached toilet and Bathroom in one bedroom) with balconies, together with one Car Parking space in the basement and with an undivided share of 200 sq. feet, right, title and interest in the Schedule A property, being the part of the Apartment building known as **"PRABHAVATHI PARAMOUNT"** constructed on the Schedule A Property with RCC framed structure, Concrete Block Masonry and standing in the name of Shri. D. H. Siddanagoud, S/o. Shri. Dodda Hanumagoud vide Sale Deed dated 02.07.2016 and registered as Document No. ANK-1-02174/2016-17 and CD No.ANKD406 on 02.07.2016 at the Office of the Sub Registrar, Anekal, Bengaluru and bounded on the :East by: Flat No. FF-18, West by: Open Space, North by: Corridor,South by : Open Space.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the links provided by the Secured Creditor, State Bank of India, RACPC -II, Koramangala, Bengaluru, represented by its Authorised Officer, i.e., (1) www.sbi.co.in (2) www.tenders.gov.in and (3) https://www.bankeauctions.com/Sbi.

For inspection of the properties please contact 9740367868/9739087288.

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 11.12.2020

Sd/- Authorized Officer
SBI, RACPC -II, Koramangala, Bengaluru.

सेन्ट्रल बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया Central Bank of India

Regional Office
1st Floor, Santhosh Complex
KG Road , Bengaluru – 560009

TENDER NOTICE : SALE OF BANK'S VEHICLES

Sealed Tenders are invited for sale of Bank's two Old Cars Tata Indica (KA04 ML 0020 & KA02 MG 6263), Mfg Year – 2012 , with Central Bank of India, Regional Office, 1st Floor, Santhosh Complex, KG Road, Bengaluru – 560009, Ph 9538522234 on **"As is Where is Basis".**

Inspection of vehicles can be done from **14 Dec 2020 to 29 Dec 2020,** from 1000 Hrs to 1300 Hrs Last date for receiving the Bids/Offers is upto 1500 Hrs on 30 Dec 2020 in sealed envelope at **Security Department, Regional Office** along fee towards the application form and Earnest **Money Deposit favouring Central Bank of India, payable at Bengaluru.** Successful Bidder should take delivery of the Car after making full payment within 7 days, else EMD will be forfeited. Offers if made for both cars, should be in separate sealed envelopes.

Date of opening of Bids : **31 Dec 2020 at 1100 Hrs**

For application form & complete details, please visit : **www.centralbankofindia.co.in**

बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Bank of India BOI

Bengaluru Zone: #11, Kempegowda Road, Bengaluru-09 Tel: 080-2295 9407/08,
E-mail: Bengaluru.ARD@bankofindia.co.in

E-AUCTION SALE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Sub Rule 6 of Rule 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower and Guarantor that the below described immovable property mortgaged / charged to the Bank of India, the Symbolic/constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Bank of India, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **29.12.2020** at **11.00 am to 12.00 noon** for Recovery of **Rs.54,45,881/-** (Rupees Fifty Four Lakhs Forty Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty One) along with further interest there on compounded with monthly rests and all costs, charges and expenses incurred and dues to Bank of India from **(1). Mr. Murali,** No.7, 5th 'B' Cross Road, Anepalya, Adugodi Post, Bangalore- 560030, **Also available at: Mr. Murali,** No: 20, Wesleyan Block, Coromandel Post, K.G.F. – 563118, **(2). Mrs. Chitradevi B,** No.7, 5th 'B' Cross Road, Anepalya, Adugodi Post, Bangalore- 560030 **Also available at: Mrs. Chitradevi B,** No: 20, Wesleyan Block, Coromandel Post, K.G.F. – 563118..

Reserve Price: Rs.45,00,000/- (Rupees Forty Five Lakhs)
EMD: Rs.4,50,000/- (Rupees Four Lakh Fifty Thousand)

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS: All that piece and parcel of the residential Flat bearing Flat No. SF – 2, 2nd Floor, MSR Nigam Apartment, Site No. 115, Old Khatha No. 150, BBMP Khatha No. 597/4548/2516/115/150, PID No. 130-M0099-163, situated at Nagadevanahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore – 560056, with 1350 sq.ft. of super built up area, 300 sq.feet of undivided right, title and interest in land, together with one covered car parking, including proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, staircase, owned by **Mr. Murali** and property is **Bounded on: East by** : Road, **West by :** Site no.116, **North by :** Site no.114, **South by :** Road.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in IBA website i.e. **https://ibapi.in**

Date : 11.12.2020
Place : Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Bank of India

Koteshwara Sahakari Bank Niyamitha

No,12/2,'Vishothama',2nd Main Road, Sheshadripuram, Bangalore-560020

POSSESSION NOTICE
(for Immovable Property)

Shankaregowda A.C.

Latha K.G.

Varun S.

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Koteshwara Sahakari Bank Niyamitha, No,12/2,'Vishothama',2nd Main Road, Sheshadripuram, Bangalore-560020 under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 had issued a Demand Notice dated **9th July 2020** calling upon the Borrower, owner of the property Sri.Shankare Gowda A C S/o Sri.Chikkamoge Gowda and Smt. Lalitha K G W/o Shankare Gowda A C and Varun S S/o Shankare Gowda A C both are residing at No.004, Shiva shree Apartment 1, Ground Floor, 4th Main, 4th Cross, BEML Layout, R R Nagar, Bengaluru - 560098 and Guarantor Sri. Venkatesh K G S/o Late Gangaiah residing at No.17,G P Complex, ISRO Main Road, RMV 2nd Stage, BEL Road, Bengaluru - 560094 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice **being Rs. 26,10,850/ (Rupees Twenty Six lakhs Ten thousand Eight hundred Fifty only)** with further interest from 09.07.2020 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower / Guarantor / owners of the property having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to borrower, owner of the property and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security (Enforcement) Rules 2002 on this **07th December 2020.**

The Borrower/Guarantor/owner's attention is invited to the provisions of sub section (8) of the section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to redeem the Security Assets/Secured Assets.

The Borrower/Guarantor/owner's of property, in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Koteshwara Sahakari Bank Niyamitha, No.12/2,2nd Main,Sheshadripuram, Bangalore-560020 for an amount of **Rs.26,10,850/- (Rupees Twenty Six lakhs Ten thousand Eight hundred Fifty only)** and further interest accrued and other charges from 09.07.2020 thereon.

Description of the Immovable Property
Details of Mortgage property in the name of Mr.Shankare Gowda

All the piece and parcel of Property bearing site No.9, in SY. No.1/1, Chikkamaranahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk now within the purview of BBMP new House No.9,Sangoli Rayanna Road,4th cross, New BEL Road, Bengaluru - 560094, measuring East to West: 30 feet, North to South:45 feet together with the building with all amenities and bounded on the:-

East by : Site No.8 West by : Site No.10
North by : Other's property South by : Road

Date: 12-12-2020
Place: Bangalore

Authorised Officer
Koteshwara Sahakari Bank Niyamitha

यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India

Andhra Bank Corporation Bank

Regional Office: 2254, "Kousalya", 3rd Floor, South Wing, Vinoba Road, Mysore - 570 005
Branch: Vontikoppal Mysore Branch

POSSESSION NOTICE

Where as, The Undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Union Bank of India, Vontikoppal Branch, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Sec 13(2) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 has caused a demand notice dated **11.08.2020** calling upon the borrower / Guarantor **1. M/s FORTIUS IT SERVICES PVT. LTD.,** G T Towers, Special Plot No.6 & 7, KSSIDC Industrial Estate, Hebbal, Mysore - 570016, **2. Mr. K. Sridhar S/o T. S. Krishna Iyengar,** #736, 3rd Cross, Thyagaraja Road, K. R. Mohalla, Mysore-570024, **3. Mr. Sarvesh Kumar M S** S/o. Somashekarappa, # 004, Olety Kalyani, 1st Main, 9th Cross, Nagarabhavi Main Road, Near Moodalpalya circle, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560072, **4. Mr. Umesh B.,** S/o Late M. Basavarajaiah, # 154, 2nd Cross, Canara Bank Colony, Nagarabhavi Road, Bangalore-560072. **5. Late Mr. G N Madan Mohan** S/o Nanjundaiah G.N., Represented by his legal heir, #11643 B, 2nd Main Road, Near Kuvempunagar Bus depot, Aravindanagar, Mysore-570023 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 1,85,92,205/- (One crore eighty five lakh ninety two thousand two hundred five Only) as on 31-07-2020** together with the future interest till payment within 60days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The above Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower / Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sec 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Act rule 2002, on this **09/12/2020 and 11/12/2020**

The Borrowers/Guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the Property will be subject to the Charge of Union Bank of India, for an amount of **Rs. 1,85,92,205/-** interest and costs thereon.

Description of the immovable Property: 1. Property in the name of Sarvesh Kumar M.S All the piece and parcel of the Residential Flat no 004 on the Ground Floor of 'OLETY KALYANI' Built on Corporation Muncipal No. 5, PID No. 38-30-5, Situated at 9th Cross, Kalyanagar, Bangalore, Corporation Ward No. 38, Now Corporation Ward No. 127, Bangalore, Measuring 610 sqft undivided share of right with car parking. Measuring Super build up area1520sqft. **Bounded on: East:** Road, **West:** Staircase & Flat no 001, **North:** Road, **South:** Site No. 88.

2. Property in the name of Sarvesh Kumar M S: All the piece and parcel of Residential Site Property Bearing No.79 and Khata Janjer No 397(old no 342) Measuring East to West 12 mtr and North to South 18 mtr, totally measuring 216 sqmt. Formed and developed by Kanaka House Building Society in Different Converted lands situated at Maadagalli Village, Yelwala Hobli, Mysore taluk, Mysore dist. **Bounded on to the Boundaries: East:** Site No 80, **West:** Site No 78, North: Road, **South:** Site No 88.

3. Property in the name of Sarvesh Kumar M S: All the piece and parcel of Residential Site Property Bearing No.455 and Khata Janjer No 550(Old no 342) Measuring East to West 12 mtr and North to South 18 mtr, totally measuring 216 sqmt. Formed and developed by Kanaka House Building Co-Operative Society Ltd. in Different Converted lands situated at Maadagalli Village, Yelwala Hobli, Mysore taluk, Mysore dist. **Bounded on to the Boundaries: East:** Site No 456, **West:** Site No 454, **North:** Road, **South:** Road

Date: 11-12-2020
Place: Mysore

Sd/- Authorized Officer
Union Bank of India

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A truck driver's attempt to save fuel cost five lives at Thoppur Ghat Road in Tamil Nadu on Saturday. The driver had reportedly put the vehicle in neutral gear and was coasting along a gradient when the truck went out of control, ramming into 12 cars, two mini-trucks, and two bikes

BRIEF MEET

Telangana CM talks business with PM in Delhi

During the 30-minute meet, KCR expresses displeasure over lack of MSP in farm laws

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hyderabad

AFTER a high-pitched blame game and bitter campaigning in the recently fought GHMC election, it is government-to-government business as usual for Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao who called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Delhi on Saturday.

The Chief Minister reportedly raised several issues relating to Telangana with the Prime Minister during their 30-minute one-on-one meeting. He is said to have expressed displeasure over the lack of MSP in the new farm Acts, requested Modi to increase the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management limit to the State and accord national project status to the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme. He is also said to have sought Central financial assistance for the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme.

Meanwhile, though the Chief Minister has opposed the 'anti-farmer' laws of the Modi government, the Opposition criticised him for not calling on the agitating farmers despite being in Delhi. Rao, who has been extending issue-based support to the BJP government at the Centre, has said time and again that politics and fighting elections are different from government-to-government relations.

It may be recalled that when Modi recently visited Hyderabad, the Prime Minister's Office had informed that the Chief Minister need not receive him at the airport. Though there was no official reaction from the TRS top brass, the party's rank and file expressed their ire over the PMO's attitude for deviating from existing practices.

During the GHMC campaign, TRS working president KT Rama Rao came down heavily on Modi for not depositing ₹15 lakh into the bank accounts of the people as "assured by the BJP". Despite ideological differences, the Chief Minister sought an appointment with Modi and met him. Incidentally, the TRS government completed two years of its second term on Saturday.

Governor Vajubhai Vala and Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa inaugurate the Hall of Fame at Olympic Bhavan at Kanteerva Stadium in Bengaluru on Saturday | VINOD KUMAR T

India's Sporting Victories through pages of history

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

IT was 1934. India under the British Empire won. Rashid Anwar wrestled to win the colour bronze during the British Empire Games (now known as Commonwealth Games). Then hockey ruled. Dhyan Chand dribbled India to victory in 1936, and then the Olympic Gold in 1948. But it was K D Keshav who wrestled an example of Indian might in the ring by winning a bronze in the 1952 Olympics.

These iconic sporting moments in Indian sports history bring goosebumps even today and have inspired athletes at various levels. Such sort of glorious past has been been documented in a book titled, 'India's Sporting Victories' from 1936 till date through the pages of The New Indian Express. It was launched by Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa and Karnataka Olympic Association (KOA) president K Govindaraj at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium Sports Complex on Saturday.

The KOA also added another feather in its cap as the 'Hall of Fame' in the Karnataka Olympic Bhavan was also inaugurated on the day. Besides CM Yediyurappa, eminent personalities including former chief minister SM Krishna, governor Vajubhai Vala, Deputy CM Dr C N Ashwath Narayan, Rajya Sabha member Mallikarjun Kharge and others were also present.

The walls of the Bhavan have been decorated with images of different sports personalities from different disciplines, including football, athletics, hockey among many others and their contribution to the sport has also been recognised. News clippings from *TNIE* have also been framed on the walls.

There was a sense of pride on Govindaraj's face, who is the brainchild behind the 'Hall of Fame' when he introduced the CM and other dignitaries to it. "I once visited the International Olympic Committee office in Geneva and saw the Hall of Fame section there. I was inspired by it and wanted to have one special place like that at the KOA," said Govindaraj, who has played an integral role in conducting state Olympics thrice and mini Olympics earlier in the year as well.

Various sportspersons from Karnataka, who have featured in the Olympics alongside Arjuna and Dronacharya awardees, were also given mementos on the occasion.

FARM ROW STUCK BETWEEN POLICY & POLITICS AS NUTRITION HUNGERS FOR ATTENTION

TEAM TNIE

"FARMING looks mighty easy when your plough is a pencil, and you're a thousand miles from the corn field," 34th US President Dwight D Eisenhower once said.

One may feel that agricultural laws in India have been devised by such pencil-pushers, citing reforms. The real issue lies in efficient procurement and distribution of foodgrains, growth and security for the farming community, and ensuring adequate nutrition to the population.

Karnataka has been the main South Indian state to witness farmers' agitation in solidarity with those protesting on the borders of Delhi against Union Government's three farm laws.

The Karnataka government's own Land Reforms (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020, and Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation and Development) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020, carry enough fodder for resentment among the farming community to agitate. However, the protests against Central farm laws at Delhi's gates gave a boost to the state farmers to "express solidarity" with their brethren near Delhi.

Karnataka farmers are against the Karnataka Land Reforms (Amendment) Ordinance scrapping Sections 79 (a) and 79 (B) to throw agricultural lands open for sale to those from non-agriculture background — going against he Swaminathan Commission recommendations and spelling a death knell for marginal farmers owning small landholdings of 1-3 acres and those in joint families.

Manohar Shetty, state secretary, Raitha Sangha and Hasiru Sene, says, "The recent Land Reforms Act will result in corporate farming instead of cooperative farming. There are chances of misusing the land for non-agricultural purposes by corporates. Already half the properties in Dakshina Kannada have become industrial areas. Through the new APMC Act, there is a hidden agenda to weaken APMCs. We demand the government to repeal these laws or else we will intensify our protests."

Farmers recently took out a rally from KSR Railway Station to Freedom Park in Bengaluru, protesting against the farm laws of the Centre and State | EXPRESS

They fear the glistening sword of corporate invasion into the agriculture sector, which is likely to throw procurement, distribution and efforts to increase nutrition among the population into a tailspin.

This, at a time when the Global Hunger Index 2020 ranks India at 94th position in a list of 107 countries measuring undernourishment, stunting, wasting, and mortality rates among children — a stark reminder of how deep this crisis is in our country.

Dr Veena Shatrugna, former Deputy Director, National Institute of Nutrition, says, "For easy, sustained access to nutritious food, focus should be on locally-available, low-cost food. We can't expect the Ambanis to give us a cheaper price. We don't even procure millet, so how will we expect it to be distributed? Rice is a staple food in the state. But the government should ensure they distribute more than 5 kg of rice (per family), because with that quantity you get only 600 calories per day — which is almost one-third the expected nutrition per day."

She suggests that the food basket under National Food Security Act move away from its overemphasis on cereals to more diversified nutrient-rich food to tackle malnourishment.

Former vice-chancellor of University of Agricultural Sciences Prof S A Patil says the only solution to the problem is that the State Government directly procure jowar, ragi, wheat, paddy, red gram and groundnut. It should distribute jowar in North Karnataka along with wheat and tur dal and in rest of the State, it should distribute ragi along with wheat, groundnuts and tur dal in sufficient quantities at affordable prices so the farmers can get remunerative prices.

BIG PICTURE

The government should distribute groundnut oil, safflower oil and sunflower oil through the public distribution system to address malnutrition, he suggests.

But to ensure such a system, laws need to be more protective rather of farmers rather than rendering them vulnerable to the corporate sector, which is the reason for the agitation.

Kodihalli Chandrashekar, president, Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha, says farmers across the country are demanding the implementation of Swaminathan Commission report on minimum support price, but the government has fixed it unscientifically.

"We are agitating not just to show our solidarity (with North Indian farmers). We have our own demands," says Manu Somaiah, president, Kodagu district Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha.

"The farm bills have been amended claiming to end the reign of middlemen within APMCs. When the government cannot curb middlemen within government firms, how can privatisation solve the problem of middlemen in the agriculture sector," asks Somaiah.

"Instead, import and export policies must be changed to benefit the farmer. Instead of privatisation of agriculture sector, the government must implement the Swaminathan report, which states that cost of production of different crops must be considered and MSPs fixed at 1.5 times the production cost. The amendments will result in privatisation, forcing farmers to give up agriculture," he says.

The Swaminathan Commission recommends setting up of a National Land Use Advisory Service linking land use, considering marketing and ecological parameters on region and geography-specific basis; prohibiting non-agricultural use of farmlands; making wastelands available for farmers; grazing rights for tribal communities in forests; reforms in irrigation and water distribution among farmers; rainwater harvesting; and groundwater recharging to increase water availability. Besides, and importantly, it recommends extending institutional credit by reducing crop loan interest rates, and moratorium on debt recovery, agricultural risk fund and a separate Kisan Credit Card for women farmers.

Raitha Sena Karnataka president Veeresh Sobaradmath says if the government sets permanent procurement centres to purchase the produce directly from farmers, a majority of farmers' problems can be solved. "Of course, reforms in the sector are necessary, but they should not prove detrimental to farmers by creating a monopoly of the corporate sector."

An agriculture economist, who heads a government agency, requesting anonymity, says a uniform agriculture policy by the Centre for the entire country is against the mandate of the Constitution. However, the federal structure has been disrespected over the years irrespective of which party is in power.

However, Dr RS Deshpande, former Director, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bengaluru, who also served as head of the Agricultural Development and Rural Transformation Centre, says there is a lot of misinformation about farm laws. "Agriculture is not just a state subject. As per the third amendment of the Constitution, agriculture commodities are under the concurrent list. These agri laws are related to trade and commerce, too. There is a lot of politics here which is affecting farmers and common people."

Inputs: Ashwini M Sripad & Chetana Belagere/ Bengaluru, K Shivakumar/ Mysuru, Prajna GR/ Madikeri, Ramkrishna Badseshi/Kalaburagi Pramodkumar Vaidya/ Hubballi, Divya Cutinho/ Mangaluru, Prakash Samaga/Udupi

With eye on GP polls, parties join hands against Kasturirangan committee report

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chikkamagaluru

WITH the dates of the gram panchayat elections fast approaching, political parties and various organisation are uniting to fight against the implementation of the Kasturirangan Committee report in Malnad region. They have upped their ante by giving a call to boycott GP polls in the areas identified by the report as the eco-sensitive zones. Protests, bandhs and rallies have become the order of the day since the last date for filing affidavit in the green tribunal of the Supreme Court is on December 31.

The Karnataka Growers' Federation and the Anti-Kasturiragan Report Struggle Committee convened a meeting of all-parties, including the ruling BJP, several organisations and forums in the inspection bungalow on Saturday to chalk out plans to put pressure on government to drop the report using upcoming gram panchayat poll as the tool.

The meeting was convened under the chairmanship of KGF president and Struggle committee convenor S Vijayakumar. AICC secretary BM Sandeep, JDS state vice-president H H Devaraj, district BJP president HC Kalmuradappa, MLC S L Bhoje Gowda , BSP state secretary Parameshand others took part in the deliberations.

Mudigere KGF president Balakrishna said of the 10 districts affected by the report, Chikkamagaluru is the most awakened one, and added 10 gram panchayats have already decided to boycott panchayat polls. Vijayakumar said the struggle had come to a decisive point and stressed the need for going together. Leaders were unanimous in their opinion to convince those who have already filed nominations to withdraw their papers.

BJP president H C Kalmurdappa made it public in the meeting that Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa had called a meeting in this regard on December 2 to submit their requests to the Centre, for filing the affidavit and thereafter to redo the survey on Kerala model.

JDS leader S L Bhojegowda, BJP leader HC Kalmuradappa, Congress leader B M Sandeep CPI leader Renukaradhya, BSP leader Paramesh pledged their support to protest march on December 15.

> **The struggle had come to a decisive point and stressed the need for going together. Leaders were unanimous in their opinion to convince those who have already filed nominations to withdraw their papers** — S Vijayakumar, KGF president

Larger HC bench to hear bail plea of POCSO accused

ENS @Bengaluru

A single-judge bench of the Karnataka High Court has referred the issue of granting bail to the accused in POCSO Act cases, to a larger bench, as coordinate benches of the court have taken different views on the issue. Justice B A Patil directed the registry to place the matter before the Chief Justice for approval and place it before a larger bench, while rejecting the bail to Hanumantha Mogaveera of Udupi. Hanumantha has been in custody since April 10, 2019, for allegedly sexually assaulting a minor girl at a rehabilitation centre.

During the hearing of his bail plea, his counsel argued that charge sheet has already been filed and the trial court has already taken cognisance of the offence on May 13, 2019.

As per Section 35(1) of the Act, the evidence of the child has to be recorded within 30 days of the trial court taking cognisance of the offence and if it is not done, the reason for the delay has to be recorded by the court. As per Section 35(2), the court has to complete the trial within one year from the date of taking cognisance of the offence. If this is not followed by the trial court, then the accused is entitled to be released on bail, the counsel argued. The judge said the contention is not acceptable as the object of the Act is ensure the protection of the minor victims and the witness so as to render a speedy justice to the victims.

8 INJURED AS MASSIVE FIRE ENGULFS CHEMICAL FACTORY IN HYD

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hyderabad

A massive fire broke out at a chemical factory in IDA Bollaram on Saturday afternoon, injuring eight workers and plunging the area into panic.

All the injured, including three who are critical, have been shifted to a nearby private hospital. According to unconfirmed reports, many more are feared trapped at Vindhya Organics Pvt Ltd which got engulfed in flames around 1 pm after a fire broke out at one of its reactors and led to a blast. The blast was heard at least three km from the factory which got engulfed in thick black smoke in no time.

In his police complaint, Mudiraj Venkatesh (38), a production in-charge at the factory, said, "I was on duty at Block-I A near reactor no. 104 when I saw flames in the reactor. In no time, the reactor blast." Venkatesh fractured his leg in the incident.

As most of the workers managed to run out of the factory on hearing the blast, it is still unclear if anyone is still trapped. Officials said they can get clarity on this only after clearing the debris.

On hearing the blast, the local police rushed to the spot and alerted the fire officials. Firefighters continued to douse the blaze till late night, Assistant District Fire Officer KV Satish Kumar said. Four fire tenders and two other vehicles from nearby chemical factories have been pressed into action. The police evacuated all those living or working in the locality.

The factory has permission for 150 workers and it is estimated and that 50-100 people were inside when the incident occurred. Deputy Chief Inspector of Factories, Sangareddy, M Praveen Kumar said they will conduct a detailed inquiry and take action against the factory management if found to have not been following the required safety norms. The Bollaram police have registered a case under Sections 338 (causing grievous hurt by act endangering life or personal safety of others) and 285 (negligent conduct with respect to fire or combustible matter) of the IPC.

Workers douse fire that burnt down Vindhya Organics factory in Hyderabad on Saturday

"I don't take me seriously. If we get some giggles, I don't mind

Paul McCartney

SPIRALLING SENSEX, STALLED DISINVESTMENT

THE THIRD EYE

SHANKKAR AIYAR

Author of The Gated Republic, Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12 Digit Revolution, and Accidental India

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IN about seven weeks, the Government of India will unveil Budget 2021. The pandemic has unleashed death and destruction, dashing hopes and shrinking economies. The question haunting the budget is: Where is the money?

In February, the authors of India's annual budget estimated India's GDP would touch around ₹225 lakh crore in March 2021. India is currently in a technical recession and the consensus is that India's GDP will be around ₹195 lakh crore. In February, the gap between the expenditure and income was estimated at ₹7.96 lakh crore and this widened by October to around ₹10 lakh crore. Indeed, the total fiscal deficit, of Centre and states, which was 6.3 per cent of GDP is now estimated to be around 10.5 per cent, could be above ₹20 lakh crore.

It is true that frequency indicators show improvement and recent reports have forecast a better and earlier than expected recovery. This, though, does not diminish the challenges faced by the government. It must find resources for pump priming the economy, to propel growth to a level which ensures that the high level of deficit and debt are sustainable. The question which begs to be asked is what the moolah mantra for funding growth is.

For sure there is discussion about expenditure control, but the scope is limited given the need for government to fund investment and growth. Net direct tax collections are low and ramping up collection is constrained — there is only so much that can be garnered from an economy which is expected to contract by over 10 per cent and which would take time to normalise.

Intriguingly, there is a mystifying reticence to harvest the potential of raising revenues through disinvestments. Even as the stock markets and the Sensex are spiralling, disinvestment is stalled. Consider the circumstance to appreciate the opportunity that has passed by. Between March 23 and December 11, the benchmark BSE Sensex has shot up from 26,000 points to over 46,000 points.

Has the rise in the stock prices been leveraged? Sadly that is not the case. Budget 2020 set a target of ₹2.1 lakh crore to be raised via disinvestment of public sector entities — new ETFs, listing of entities such as LIC and strategic sales. As per the data put out by Department of Investment and Public Asset Management, the total receipt from disinvestment in the current year is ₹6,533.11 crore.

Consider the global context. In 2020, non-financial firms of the world have raised over $ 3.5 trillion from investors. DoorDash, the food delivery enterprise which is yet to record profits, is valued at over $55 billion. Airbnb touched valuations exceeding that of Expedia and Marriott. With interest rates hovering below 1 per cent and over $ 17 trillion locked in negative yield, investors across the world are chasing returns — and India is also a beneficiary if one looks at the portfolio flows.

So why wouldn't the government list the Life Insurance Corporation of India — as indeed it promised in Budget 2020 — to raise resources? Why not dilute government holding in banks below 50 per cent to enable better governance, raise cash, recapitalise banks so they can face competition from new entrants. Take strategic disinvestment. For years, the go to line of governments has been disinvestment at the 'right valuation'. The right approach is to focus on the net present value of resources which can be realised — not just the preconceived valuation of what could be. Arguably, given the state of the economy and global trade, the sales of BPCL or Air India may be challenged. Why not shift government holdings in a sovereign fund and raise resources against the assets first as debt and then cash from sales?

Also offerings can be segmented and disinvestment customised. Take the case of the pharma PSEs on the list. The world is scrambling for production facilities. Why not offer plug and play opportunities to Indian pharma with a global footprint and a toehold in the active pharma ingredient business? Why not invite transnationals to partner? Why not offer them to the global vaccine alliance GAVI?

The economic cost of government running businesses is illustrated by data. It is no secret that a third of the PSEs are haemorrhaging tax payer monies. Between 2010 and 2019, the cumulative losses of Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) were over ₹2.65 lakh crore. Add erosion of public wealth — which was worsening even before the pandemic. Between March 2010 and March 2020, the value of all listed companies rose from ₹61.65 lakh crore to over ₹113.48 lakh crore whereas the value of listed PSEs slid from ₹ 17.34 lakh crore to ₹11.33 lakh crore — sure, there have been sales but there also have been new listings. And the going is bound to be tougher given the advent of ESG norms embraced by global investors.The economic consequences of Covid will be felt long after the pandemic has abated.

The challenge before the government is longitudinal — immediate, medium and long term. It needs a playbook for how it will fund social and economic development. For starters, it may want to design a policy on PSEs. The political economy is at an inflection point. To paraphrase Emily Dickinson, it is useful to open every door to welcome dawn.

THE LONG MARCH: INDIAN VERSION

POINT OF VIEW

TJS GEORGE

SOMETHING India has never seen before is happening now. Tens of thousands of farmers are on the march. Remarkably, there is no political party behind them, nor any identifiable leader. If ever there was a "people rising", this is it. Spontaneous. Natural. And for those reasons, it is full of power and potential. With 96,000 tractors and 12 million farmers, this is a humongous movement. It is also sensational because the farmers have named Adani and Ambani as their enemies. These names provide Narendra Modi's backbone. The confrontation, therefore, is basically against Modi.

The unusualness of this phenomenon has caught world attention. It has been headline news in BBC and The New York Times. Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau threw diplomatic convention to the winds and expressed support to the farmers. India put on its highfalutin diplomatic hat and protested. The Canadian High Commissioner in Delhi was summoned by the Government and a demarche served on him. Canada defied India and said that it would always support the people's right to protest peacefully. Canada has Sikhs in its cabinet.

Old-world diplomacy has no chance against today's realities. The reality that stares at the world today is that farmers are on the rise in India and that there is no one in the Government who can even discuss matters with them. Prime Minister Modi was evidently too unsettled to meet the farmers in person. The statements he made were typically pompous which showed that he had either lost the plot or was unable to comprehend things. He said that "people-centric, people-driven and planet-friendly development has become part of the BJP-led government's way of governance," and went on to declare that he had freed farmers and rural economy from years of slavery, that they would now have the freedom to sell their produce anywhere.

What bombastic hogwash. Evidently, the PM has no clue as to what is going on, and he thinks that the people can be easily fooled. The farmers have not only proved that they cannot be fooled; they have shown that the Prime Minister is isolated from the mainstream of Indian sentiments. They seem to know that Modi is more gas than substance. The substance part is tied up with corporate mandarins. Modi was always open about his indebtedness to them. To assume the office of PM, he flew from Gujarat to Delhi in a private Adani jet, an open acknowledgment of his obligation to the tycoon. Adani is an expert in using political connections for business advantage. He did that in Australia in ways that made the pubic put up placards saying "stop Adani". India is different. Since Narendra Modi came to power in Delhi, Adani's network increased 230 per cent to more than $26 billion on the strength of government tenders to build infrastructure projects. The respected newspaper Business Standard once used a Navjot Singh Sidhu quote as the heading of a news story. It was: "Is Modi a PM or business development manager of Ambani, Adani?"

With 96,000 tractors and 12 million farmers, this is a humongous movement. It is also sensational because the farmers have named Adani and Ambani as their enemies. These names provide Narendra Modi's backbone

It is this union of power and profiteering that is challenged by the marching farmers. For long years, India's farmers have been suffering silently. The extent of suffering during those years is not easy to believe. About three lakh farmers committed suicide in India since 1995. In Maharashtra alone, in just one year, 2019, there were 60,000 farmer suicides. Most of them used pesticides which make death agonising and gut-wrenching.

Low prices for their produce and cruel practices of money lenders are the most familiar factors behind the desperation of farmers. There are laws to protect them from precisely these factors, even to ensure MSP. But laws prove toothless when conniving officials join hands with money lenders and corporate players who fatten themselves at the expense of farmers. A corruption-free government would have made a difference. But there is no such government even in our museums.

That is one of the reasons why the farmers' protest is a historic phenomenon. All efforts by Amit (I'm-always-right) Shah to make peace with marchers failed. His isolation was further underlined when more than a dozen political parties supported the call for Bharat Bandh last Tuesday. Clearly, there is a general feeling that the farmers' cause is legitimate unlike the stand adopted by Amit (I-cannot-be-wrong) Shah. But what happens if the Prime Minister sees every protest as questioning his immaculate leadership qualities? That is the problem with leaders who are immaculate, a term which means 'perfectly clean, pure as pure can be.' Pure? Our PM?

TOO MUCH DEMOCRACY FOR MANDARINS?

POWER & POLITICS

PRABHU CHAWLA

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DEMOCRACY is both an idea and an ideal. It is also an initiation and an institution. It thrives and survives on the principle of maximum participation. An ancient Greek political and philosophical architecture of governance, the term surfaced around 507 BC in Athens. Its etymology is a combination of 'demos' (common people) and 'kratos' (power).

Over the centuries, the instrument of power passed from the common to the privileged, thereby perverting the sanguine spirit of democracy. The ballot in the hands of people has become a bullet in the hands of the executive, which imposes its subjective authority and restricts the contours of inclusive discourse. The width, breadth and height of the democratic edifice are now decided by a cunning cabal, which acquires powers by selection not an election. Their postures and utterances have portrayed democracy as a demon.

It is now diminishing the power of those elected by the people to work for their welfare. The erudite and highly visible faces of the New Establishment are scripting its new narrative. Last week, Amitabh Kant, the NITI Aayog's flamboyant and cocktail CEO, defined democracy's quantitative limit. Speaking at a media conclave, he announced shockingly, "Tough reforms are very difficult in the Indian context, we are too much of a democracy." Since Kant is considered the most powerful official voice on every subject under the political sun, his opinion is being interpreted as a reflection of the political leadership's current mood. His claim to fame is just one slogan. All other projects entrusted to him over the past two decades remain incomplete. He ignores the fact that it is the excessive democratic process that has ensured him plum posts in almost every government ruled by the extreme Left to the current one. As he is the only retired IAS officer, amongst 100 other compatriots holding sensitive posts, who have been given the mandate to authoritatively articulate and interpret policies and initiatives, his remarks placed the blame for tardy decision-making on gagging internal dissent on the government.

In a democracy, it is the political leadership and not the Civil Service, which normally expresses opinion on the efficacy of institutions. Since most Central ministers confine themselves to their own departments and policies, Kant has acquired the image of an information treasure chest to be mined to gauge the sarkar's mood. Ever since Prime Minister Narendra Modi anointed him to his present post, Kant has expounded on all subjects from potatoes to politics. Subsequently, his comments, though querulously questioned by himself subsequently, became a major embarrassment for the government. Both MSM (Main Stream Media) and SM (Social Media) questioned Kant's prognosis of what ails the economy. At a time when Modi's detractors are charging his administration with gagging dissent and demolishing democratic symbols, Kant couldn't have given a more lethal weapon to the Opposition with his unsolicited opinion.

As the furore took a furious turn, many Union ministers disowned Kant's words of wishful wisdom and declared their unflinching faith in democracy. The foot-in-the-mouth bureaucrat wrote articles in newspapers and behaved like a politician by accusing the media of quoting his remarks out of context. But video cameras record what the eyes see. Finally, it was left to Modi to publicly distance his government from the unacceptable conclusion drawn by one of his pencil pushers. Though there wasn't any direct connection, the PM, while speaking at the foundation stone ceremony of the new Parliament building, asserted: "Democracy is not merely a system of governance for us. Democracy is in India's ethos for centuries. A democratic temperament is a part of our culture…democracy is a way of life in India… It won't be long before the world would say that India is the Mother of Democracy."

Actually, it is the malicious mandarin who pollutes the minds of leaders to not only consolidate their own power and continuity, but also to cover up their own failures. In a democracy, public outrage takes an ugly turn when the masses discover that their elected leaders are falling short on their promises

Modi is aware that he, and many others like him hailing from ordinary backgrounds, is the creation of democratic power play. Unlike babus who enter the power palace through written and oral examinations, leaders have to convince the masses about their relevance and identity. Modi could survive as the Gujarat's CM for 12 years in an extremely hostile national environment and later become the PM precisely due to "too much of democracy". The BJP emerged as the majority party after almost three decades, not due to bureaucratic file movers but because of the faith in the ballot.

Actually, it is the malicious mandarin who pollutes the minds of leaders to not only consolidate their own power and continuity, but also to cover up their own failures. In a democracy, public outrage takes an ugly turn when the masses discover that their elected leaders are falling short on their promises. Since netas only draw the big picture, they leave it to the civil servants to ensure timely delivery. Rebellion is brewed out of distress everywhere. Mahatma Gandhi used "too much of democracy" to bring down the British Empire. So many freedom fighters died defending "too much of democracy". Nelson Mandela used his prison torture to fan the democratic process and deposed apartheid. The entire culturally diverse Europe and the UK surrendered a part of their sovereign rights to form the EU, thanks to democracy because the people thought it was in their interest. It is also democracy that led to Brexit and the resignation of the UK prime minister. If some Middle Eastern Islamic monarchies have partially liberalised their social order, it is due to the realisation on their part that democratic will ultimately get the better of their royal order.

In Independent India, Jaiprakash Narain united wide swathes of his countrymen to combat Indira Gandhi's non-performing and corrupt Congress government. She then used state power to strangulate democratic voices. Finally, she had to yield and lost the elections. Most of the current leaders including the prime minister, Mamata Banerjee, Chandrashekhar Rao, Jagan Reddy, Jayalalithaa and Lalu are the fruits of "too much democracy." If some of them like Mayawati and the Gandhis have been marginalised, the responsibility goes to democratic hammer sledging. Despite cultural, linguistic and religious diversities, India has survived as a united nation because its citizens can exercise their right to elect or reject their rulers.

India has become one of the world's top five economies due to the maximum participation of all its stakeholders. Half a dozen national and over 40 regional and state parties are not only flourishing, but also ruling some of the states owing to free and fair democratic verdict. Since democracy demands vigorous scrutiny at every level, only incompetent dilettantes would cherish the idea of curbing the freedom of expression. India is truly a democracy ruled by a "government of the people, by and for the people." Any Doubting Thomas should be dumped before they subvert the system. Or else, there will be no Credible India, only Indie-populism and Incredible Inanity.

QUOTE CORNER

It's (Brexit) looking very, very likely. We'll have to go for a solution that I think will be wonderful for the UK. We'll be able to do exactly what we want from January 1. It will obviously be different from what we set out to achieve

Boris Johnson, British Prime Minister

President Erdogan was not informed that what he ill-recited in Baku refers to the forcible separation of areas north of Aras from Iranian motherland. Didn't he realise that he was undermining the sovereignty of Azerbaijan?

Javad Zarif, Iranian foreign minister

While not an FDA approval, today's emergency use authorisation of the Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 Vaccine holds the promise to alter the course of this pandemic in the United States

Peter Marks, FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research director

MAILBAG WRITE TO letters@newindianexpress.com

BJP playing with fire

Ever since the BJP got second spot in the Hyderabad municipal corporation elections, the BJP leadership from Delhi are going overboard to attack the West Bengal Chief Minister and her government. The West Bengal governor is ably helping the BJP leaders landing from Delhi. The Governor ought to know that for the fire to be lit, one needs both a match box and stick. If the Governor is serious about the law and order situation, he ought to have summoned both TMC and BJP leaders (from state and Delhi) to caution them not to play with fire.

N Nagarajan, Secunderabad

Memoirs of Mukherjee

This has reference to the news 'Sloppy Sonia and autocratic Modi in Dada's Mann ki baat'. Of late, memoirs of political leaders who occupied high posts in governance have become a volume of criticisms of other leaders. Recently, Obama passed comments on Rahul Gandhi and many party workers. Pranab Mukherjee occupied coveted posts during the Congress rule. Finding faults in his memoirs on political party leaders with whom Mukherjee was in good camaraderie and experienced halcyon days is not admirable. Moreover, politics is like wheels within wheels with complexities and uncertainties and eccentricities. Exepecting smooth sailing is near impossible. This is applicable to other nations also. Passing comments on a late leader is to be avoided but the foibles of memoirs need to be pointed out.

R Krishnamachary, Chennai

PM's approach not right

It has to be said about PM Narendra Modi that whether it is right or wrong, he bulldozes through whatever he wants to do. This is what was witnessed in the case of foundation stone laying ceremony for the construction of new Parliament building despite the plethora of objections and the displeasure shown by the apex court as the decision of the petition against the construction is still pending. But one thought that all parties should have been taken into confidence in the matter, the absence of the opposition parties for the Bhoomi Pujan ceremony is a reflection of the absence of consensus that one sees in all important matters. This is not good augury.

KR Jayaprakash Rao, Mysuru

Reforms in prisons must

This is with reference to "When saints are in prison: custody as a form of torture" (Dec 12). The author's reflections on closure of judiciary avenues blindly and deteriorating conditions for political detainees and prisoners implicated by government machineries on false grounds are a major setback to democracy and human rights. Any government without a strong and balanced opposition leads and strengthens the brutal political power in their hands. This was explicitly enforced through the police and intelligence forces against their political dissidents in India. The only way out is the expeditious trials. Verdicts by the judiciary would bring out much recourse to the social thinkers and political scientists in the society. Nations and its people thrive with an enlightened judiciary in democratic world.

Chilaka Venkateswarlu, Chennai

Stop divisive politics in Bengal

This refers to the "MHA summons top WB babus, Didi says don't go". BJP is straining every nerve and loses no occasion to paint Bengal as hotbed of goons. It is no wonder that the subtle line between criminals and politicians is diminishing by the day when more and more lawmakers are doubling up as criminals. Given the sorry and exacerbating state of affairs in the state, EC has a daunting task ahead. Lastly BJP is zeroing in and meddling in Bengal too much when it has other fish to fry. Farmers and China are proving to be thorn in its flesh. The Centre ought to be seen as adopting an even handed approach while dealing with states, otherwise all its allegations shall be a case of crying foul. Is all hunky-dory in BJP-ruled states?

Deepak Singhal, Noida

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Anurag Thakur @ianuragthakur
I am sure that 17K hectares of land will be returned to state of Jammu and Kashmir. There will be action against who were involved in the corrupt practice

Hanuman Beniwal @hanumanbeniwal
I wasn't present when farm bills were passed in the House. If I were there, I would have opposed it like the SAD despite being a part of NDA

Dilip Ghosh @DilipGhoshBJP
The new farm laws will provide flexibility to farmers to sell their produce in markets where they get a better price

FARM REFORMS WILL RAISE INCOMES, SAYS MODI

Biggest beneficiaries will be small, marginal farmers; they'll get access to markets: PM

Farmers will have access to new markets. Their incomes will improve and cold storage infrastructure will modernise. The biggest beneficiaries will be farmers, especially the small and marginal farmers —Narendra Modi, PM

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

SPEAKING for the first time on the new farm laws after the ongoing protest broke out, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday defended the laws saying they would break barriers in the agricultural sector and increase farmers' income.

"If you place barriers, which previous governments did, an industry or sector cannot grow. The recent agriculture reforms are a part of that barrier-breaking process. We are removing the barriers within agricultural, food processing, storage and cold chain," the Prime Minister said in his address at the annual general meeting of FICCI.

His statement comes even as thousands of farmers are protesting against the laws since last two weeks, demanding that the government repeal them as they claim the laws will weaken the mandi system and will benefit corporates. But, Modi claimed the laws were an attempt to modernise the agricultural sector.

"Farmers will have access to new markets, their incomes will improve, the country's cold storage infrastructure will modernize. The biggest beneficiaries will be country's farmers, especially the small and marginal farmers," Modi said.

The PM requested private investors to explore the full potential of agriculture and the rural markets. "More investments are required from you. Agri-based industries have a vast scope. Our government is committed to improving the lives of farmers through its intentions and policies," the PM told FICCI members.

The government has said it would give a written assurance that the existing Minimum Support Price (MSP) regime for procurement would continue and that some of the provisions of the laws would be amended, which the farmers have rejected and said the government must repeal the laws.

The talks failed this week and the farmers have said they would continue to intensify the protest in the coming days.

Listing his government's farmer-friendly measures, Modi said the government has encouraged producing ethanol from sugarcane. This ethanol is blended in petrol to cut India's oil import dependence and gives farmers remunerative prices for their crops, the PM said.

Farmers take a break from their 'Delhi Chalo' protest to play cricket on a blocked road at the Singhu border on Saturday | PTI

Under pressure, Haryana Dy CM calls for talks

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

FACED with growing protests against the MLAs of the Jannayak Janata Party (JJP), Haryana Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala on Saturday rushed to the national capital to call on Union Ministers Rajnath Singh, Piyush Goyal and Narendra Singh Tomar to press for dialogue with the agitating farmers.

Chautala stressed after the meetings that the BJP-JJP government in Haryana is stable, with the state government committed to ensure minimum support prices (MSP).

The electoral base of the JJP is largely among the agrarian community in Haryana, who have thrown their weight behind the agitating farmers against three laws enacted by the Parliament in the Monsoon session to reform the trade of the agricultural produces.

"We all need to sit and finalise... 'I am hopeful the way the Centre is engaging with protesting farmers and has given a 24-page reply to the demands of the farmers union, the situation at borders will normalise with a mutual agreement and there would be a conclusion to this issue with mutual consent," Chautala told reporters after his meeting with Tomar, the Union minister for agriculture and farmers' welfare.

"The solutions should be found amicably with talks, which may happen in the course of the next two days," he added. Union ministers are learnt to have told Chautala that the farm laws would benefit the farmers, with the private investment coming in supply chain and food processing, which can lead to qualitative improvement in the income of farmers.

Cahutala stressed that the Haryana government is stable. Incidentally, the JJP MLAs are increasingly facing protests by the farmers for the alliance of the party with the BJP in the state.

While Chautala reiterated that the MSP will be ensured in the procurement of the foodgrains, the agitation of the farmers is focused in demand for repeal of the three laws. The NDA government at the Centre has made it evident that there will be no going back on the farm laws, with the BJP launching outreach across the country to build up support for the new initiatives.

An excavator digs the highway between Jaipur and Delhi at Shajahanpur to stop protesting from heading towards Delhi on Saturday | SHEKHAR YADAV

'HOW MANY SACRIFICES MORE?'

NEW DELHI: THE Congress on Saturday cited a media report to claim that 11 farmers had died in the last 17 days while protesting against the new agri laws, with former party chief Rahul Gandhi asking how many more sacrifices will farmers have to make to get the legislations repealed. "How many more sacrifices will the farmers have to make to get the agri laws repealed?" Gandhi asked in a tweet in Hindi, tagging a media report which claimed that 11 protesting farmers had lost their lives in the last 17 days due to various reasons such as ill health or a mishap. The party on Saturday accused the Modi government of branding every person opposing it a 'Maoist' and an 'anti-national', and urged the Centre to accede to the demands of the farmers. *ENS*

CLIMATE CHANGE

India will exceed targets beyond Paris Pact: PM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi Saturday said that India is not only on track to achieve its Paris Agreement targets, but to exceed them beyond expectations.

"We have reduced our emission intensity by 21 per cent over 2005 levels. Our solar capacity has grown from 2.63 GigaWatts in 2014 to 36 GigaWatts in 2020. Our renewable energy capacity is the fourth largest in the world," he said while addressing the Climate Ambition Summit.

This Summit marks the fifth anniversary of the Paris Agreement- the most ambitious step in fight against Climate Change.

"Today, as we are looking to set our sights even higher, we must also not lose sight of the past. We must not only revise our ambitions, but also review our achievements against targets already set. Only then can our voices be credible for future generations.

The PM said that country's solar capacity will reach 175 GigaWatts before 2022.

"And, we have an even more ambitious target now — 450 GigaWatts of renewable energy capacity by 2030. We have also succeeded in expanding our forest cover and safeguarding our biodiversity."

"And, on the world stage, India has pioneered two major initiatives — The International Solar Alliance, and Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure," he added.

NATURE'S LAP

Tourists take a boat ride on the Narmada as seagulls fly past them in Jabalpur | PTI

Haryana farmer group against repeal of laws

CONTINUED FROM P1

ON Saturday, the farmers took over the Bastara toll plaza near Karnal and the Shambu toll plaza near Amabla on the Delhi-Amritsar highway. In Punjab, toll charges have not been collected since October 1, leaving a ₹3 crore a day loss for the NHAI.

Meanwhile, another group of farmers led by BKU (Mann) Haryana state leader Guni Prakash met Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar on Saturday and asked him not to repeal the laws. Later, talking to reporters, Prakash said they will protest if the government gives into pressure and repeal the laws.

NFHS SURVEY

FERTILITY RATE FALLS IN MAJOR STATES BUT RISES IN KERALA

SUMI SUKANYA DUTTA @ New Delhi

EVEN as the Centre has expressed its intent of adopting measures to control population growth, the total fertility rate in a large part of the country has shown a considerable fall over the last four years, the phase 1 of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-5 shows.

For 22 states and UTs for which data has been released on Saturday, the TFR or children born per woman now stands at 1.76 while it was 2 during the NFHS-4, carried out in 2015-16.

The TFR in India was 2.2 in the last survey—just a notch above the replacement level of 2.1. Surprisingly though, Kerala-known for the best human development indices in the country, is the only state where the TFR has increased. During NFHS-4 the TFR in the southern state stood at 1.6 but has now risen to 1.8 and is the same in both rural and urban areas.

There are two states—Telangana (1.8) and Tripura (1.7)—where the TFR has remained the same while there has been remarkable drop in the crucial indicator for most states including Bihar, the state with the highest TFR. The state now has a TFR of 3, as compared to the last survey when it stood at 3.4. Also, Kerala and Goa are among 8 states where the sex ratio at birth has worsened.

While releasing the report, Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan pointed out that the present NFHS is being conducted in 6.1 lakh sample households, involving household level interviews to collect information on, health and family planning related indicators.

The results from Assam, Bihar, Manipur, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra, Telangana, West Bengal, Mizoram, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu have been made public as Phase 1. Phase 2 of the survey covering the remaining 14 states and UTs however had their fieldwork suspended due to Covid-19, but have been resumed from November and is expected to be completed by May. "Substantial improvement in maternal and child health indicators over NFHS-4 was recorded in the present survey," said the minister adding that contraceptive use has increased and unmet need has been reduced in most Phase I states. The survey also found considerable improvement in vaccination coverage among children age 12-23 months across all states and UTs covered.

Substantial improvement in maternal and child health indicators over NFHS-4 was recorded in the present survey
Harsh Vardhan, Health Minister

The survey also found that for the first time women with bank accounts have been recorded separately.

Experts raise eyebrows on appraisal by unqualified EAC

CONTINUED FROM P1

OTHER members of the panel are PK Mohapatra, former director (Technical), NTPC; UJ Kahalekar, Professor (Civil Engineering), Govt College of Engineering, Aurangabad; and S Hampannavar, Professor, School of Electric and Electronic Engg, REVA University, Bengaluru.

Questioning the appointments, environment lawyer Ritwick Dutta says the Expert Appraisal Committee, as it exists now, does not comprise of experts but unqualified 'non-officials'. "Since they are not experts in the relevant field, they cannot be expected to carry out any serious and scientific 'appraisal' of the EIA document and environmental impact of the projects. What we today have is only a committee without experts capable of carrying out any appraisal. Any decision and advice rendered by such a committee should not be accepted as it will have adverse consequences both on the environment and on the rights of communities impacted by such decisions," said Dutta.

The EAC on River Valley and Hydroelectric Projects, too, has members who either have no expertise in the area or have headed government-run NHPC. K Gopakumar, the chairperson of the committee, is a professor, Dept of Electronics, IISc-Bengaluru while member Balraj Joshi is former CMD of NHPC. The other two members, Uday Kumar RY and C Deshpande, have no relevant experience.

The Karnataka HC issued notice to the ministry on a PIL questioning the improper constitution of the EACs.

India is being tested, will meet border security challenge: EAM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

EMPHASISING that India is being tested and that we would rise to the occasion, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Saturday said that the nation is ready to meet the national security challenge amid border standoff.

"...Yes, we are being tested. I have every confidence that we will rise to the occasion; we will meet that national security challenge. But beyond that, at this time, I would really frankly keep my own counsel," Jaishankar said.

The EAM also said that he would not predict a timeline by when the border standoff with China would be resolved.

His remarks came during an online interaction by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). He said the 'events' along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) were very disturbing and had raised 'basic concerns'. When asked if it would be a long-hail or a breakthrough was expected soon, he said, "I would not go into prediction zone at all whether it is going to be easy or not, and what will be the timelines and so on." What has happened in eastern Ladakh was not in China's interest as it has impacted public sentiment in India, said Jaishankar.

"I also believe that what has happened is not actually in the interest of China. Because what it has done is — it has significantly impacted public sentiment (in India). Professionally, I have seen the evolution of how the Indian public feels about China over the last many decades and I am old enough to remember much more difficult days, especially in my childhood and in my teens," he said. He expressed concern that the work gone in building relationship on both sides would dissipate. "I do not believe that the events of this year have helped at all. In fact, I think the real danger is that the goodwill which was so carefully developed will dissipate," he said.

No Covid effect on IIT job placements, domestic companies offer 35% rise in pay packages

SUMI SUKANYA DUTTA @ New Delhi

THE Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent disruption in the economy seem to have had little impact on the ongoing placements in the prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology where the annual pay package offered has risen by 30-35% as compared to last year.

Placement incharge at several IITs said the payment offers from domestic companies have overshadowed even top international offers, which means that many fresh graduates will earn more in the country than their batchmates who take up offers abroad.

Less than two weeks after the placement season began, nearly 60% final year students in the older IITs have already got placement offers.

At IIT Delhi, over 300 national and international firms offering more than 500 job profiles across multiple sectors had registered for hiring students this year and on the first day of the first phase of final placement itself, students had bagged over 300 placement offers, including pre-placement offers with many bagging multiple offers. Also, around 150 PPOs, including international locations, were received.

As per officials, companies from technology, banking and financial service sectors are leading the pack in hiring students and a large number of students are happy as they are assured of jobs despite a downbeat job market.

In IIT Bombay, a number of international firms had lined up to hire graduates of which Dutch company Otiver offered the highest pay package of ₹1.39 crore per annum.

Authorities at IIT Madras said the institute had bagged nearly 750 offers while this number was about 700 each in case of IIT Guwahati and Roorkee. Also, more than 220 companies have registered for hiring, more than any year so far.

At the institute, nearly 190 students also got pre-placement offers and about 1,400 students are hoping for placement by the end of the placement season.

But officials at IIT Roorkee, which is looking to ensure jobs for at least 1,200 students this season, said fewer offers were received this year as compared to last year.

A professor involved with the process of placement at IIT Kanpur said, "There is a good mix of companies from India and abroad and from varied sectors, which is a very good sign." At IIT, Benaras Hindu University officials said more than 215 students had bagged jobs with annual pay packages ranging from ₹11.5 lakh to ₹64.27 lakh.

FATAL CELEBRATION

A 12-year-old boy was killed in celebratory firing at a marriage function in Laharchi village in Madhya Pradesh's Rajgarh district. The incident occurred on Friday night when a man opened fire from his gun, said the police

2 BANE ARRESTED FOR HARASSING TWO LIONS IN GIR FOREST OF GUJARAT

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	29	14	Mumbai	30	24
Bhopal	22	16	Panaji	31	24
Jaipur	24	11	Patna	26	13
Amritsar	19	3	Lucknow	25	11
Chennai	31	21	Port Blair	30	24
Kolkata	27	20	Imphal	24	9
Srinagar	7	-4	Chandigarh	22	8

KASHMIR

Top brass of Cong skips DDC poll campaigns

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

THE top Congress leadership has stayed away from campaigning in the ongoing first-ever District Development Council (DDC) polls in Jammu and Kashmir, which assumes significance as it is the first major political exercise after the scrapping of Article 370 in the last year.

A senior J&K Congress leader said they had written to the high command urging the party leadership to send some senior leaders. "We had demanded that some senior leaders should canvas votes for party candidates. However, barring the two-day visit by Congress J&K incharge Rajni Patil to Jammu, none visited the UT," the Congress leader said.

With top leaders staying away from polls, the local Congress leaders have taken onto themselves to campaign for the party candidates. Unlike the Congress, Union ministers and top BJP brass have been visiting the region for campaigning.

J&K Congress vice president Ghulam Nabi Monga, while downplaying the issue, said the DDC polls is a local election. "It suits the local leaders to highlight the local issues." Taking a dig at the BJP for sending Union ministers and top leaders to campaign, Monga said, "It seems the party either does not trust its local leadership or the local leadership is not competent."

In 140 seats in Jammu, it is a triangular contest between the BJP, Congress and the Peoples Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) while for 140 seats in Valley, there is a multilateral contest between the BJP, Congress, PAGD and Apni Party.

Mamata furious as MHA summons three IPS officials

Summoned officials were responsible for Nadda's security when his convoy was attacked; TMC accuses Centre of imposing emergency

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

THE tussle between the Centre and West Bengal government intensified on Saturday after the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) summoned three Bengal-cadre IPS officers to serve in central deputation following alleged security lapses that led to the attack on BJP national president JP Nadda's convoy two days ago. The ruling Trinamool Congress reacted strongly and asserted that law and order is a state subject. Party MP Kalyan Banerjee has shot off a letter to Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla protesting the 'unilateral' and 'politically motivated' move.

The three officers — Rajeev Mishra (IG, South Bengal), Praveen Tripathi (DIG, Presidency Range) and Bholanath Pandey (SP, Diamond Harbour) — were responsible for overseeing Nadda's security during his visit to Diamond Harbour, the Lok Sabha constituency of Mamata Banerjee's nephew, Abhishek Banerjee.

File picture of a vehicle of BJP president JP Nadda's convoy that was damaged after stone-pelting by alleged TMC activists near Diamond Harbour on Thursday | PTI

The Centre's move is likely to escalate the ongoing tension between the Centre and Mamata government. In his letter, Kalyan Banerjee, the chief whip of TMC in Lok Sabha, alleged that the Centre was resorting to coercive means to intimidate the state administration, and the top officials were summoned at the instance of the Union Home Minister. "We want to inform you that law and order is within the domain of the state under 7th Schedule of the State list...How in respect of the law and order situation you can call the officers for any sorts of discussion?" he asked. All the three IPS officers were deployed on December 10 nearby the place of occurrence. Your motive is very clear: by taking them, you want to create pressure upon the said three police officers, he said.

BJP's Bengal vice-president Jay Prakash Majumdar, in turn, questioned Banerjee's authority to write the letter. "He is an MP. He has no authority to step into the matter and write to the MHA," Majumdar said.

State's nod to be taken before call

Usually, the state government's consent is taken before asking any IPS officer to serve in central deputation. But sources in the state secretariat said the MHA has unilaterally taken the decision bypassing the West Bengal government. For joining central deputation, IPS officers need to take clearance from the state government

EC official to visit state next week to take stock of situation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

IN the run up to the upcoming assembly elections, Deputy Election Commissioner (EC) in-charge of West Bengal, Sudip Jain, will visit the state on December 17. During his two-day visit, Jain is likely to visit North Bengal too.

Sources in the EC indicated that Jain's visit might lead to the visit of the full bench of the Commission early January. "He will come to see the election preparedness under the 'New Normal' situation and give necessary instructions for the assembly polls. There will be an increase of booths up to 25 per cent because of the pandemic and hence, the polling machinery will have to be redesigned," said an official of the EC.

The deletion and inclusion of the voters in electoral rolls are going on and the election commission will publish the final list on January 15.

According to the sources, all districts magistrates have been asked to submit a detailed report regarding the law and order situation in their respective districts. "The DMs have been asked to map the sensitive and high-sensitive booths and identify those who were responsible for triggering violence in previous elections. They have also been asked to mention the number of pending non-bailable cases and seizure of arms and ammunition in the report," said an official of the commission.

At present, Bengal has around 79,000 polling booths.

Ghar wapsi for Raj politican Ghanshyam Tiwari

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

VETERAN Rajasthan politician Ghanshyam Tiwari, who had quit the BJP two years ago, returned to the saffron camp on Saturday.

A five-time MLA, Tiwari had quit the BJP in June 2018 following differences with then CM Vasundhara Raje.

He joined the BJP at an event held at the party headquarters in Jaipur where state party chief Satish Poonia renewed his BJP membership.

"After a long time, I got a chance to speak from the party platform. I thank the party leadership for considering my letter to join the party," Tiwari said after formally joining the BJP. He said he had shared the stage with the Congress once, he had never accepted its membership.

Ghanshyam Tiwari joining the BJP at an event held at the party headquarters in Jaipur on Saturday | EXPRESS

Tiwari said he had formed a new party due to "some special circumstances". Before resigning from the BJP in June 2018, Tiwari had been at loggerheads with the Vasundhara Raje-led state dispensation over a host of issues including farmers' plight, demand for reservations for upper castes and a range of corruption charges.

Tiwari had formed a new outfit, the Bharat Vahini Party, ahead of the Rajasthan Assembly elections in 2018. Though it contested many seats, it could not win any. Tiwari himself lost from the Sanganer seat in Jaipur.

Though Tiwari and the BJP are now keen to forget the past, the veteran leader had made some stinging remarks while quitting the BJP. He had also targeted PM Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah ahead of the Rajasthan polls in 2018.

BJP MAKES GAINS

Bodo council elections likely to throw up fractured mandate

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Guwahati

ELECTIONS to Assam's autonomous Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC), billed as the "semi-final" ahead of the Assembly polls next year, are likely to throw up a fractured mandate.

The votes of the two-phase elections were being counted on Saturday evening. When reports last came in, the Bodoland People's Front (BPF) was leading in 18 seats, the United People's Party Liberal (UPPL) in 11, the BJP in eight, Congress in one and others in two. This is the first election in the BTC since the Centre signed a peace accord with the All Bodo Students' Union and some factions of the National Democratic Front of Bodoland.

The BTC administers four districts namely Kokrajhar, Chirang, Baksa and Udalguri. The BJP is likely to make big gains. It had won only one of the 40 seats in the 2015 BTC polls. This time, it ditched ally BPF and allegedly forged a tacit alliance with the UPPL. If the BJP-UPPL combine crosses the halfway mark of 20 seats, it will rise to power.

FIR against man as minor girl accuses him of forcing to convert for wedding

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

AMID controversy over the recent anti-conversion ordinance in the state, a minor Hindu girl lodged a complaint against a Muslim man, accusing him of forcing her to convert her religion if she wanted to marry him. The case has been registered in Shahabad area of Hardoi district.

According to police sources, the man was booked under the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Ordinance-2020, the Indian Penal Code and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act.

Hardoi superintendent of police (SP) Anurag Vats confirmed that the FIR was registered against a person identified as Azad. The SP said that the minor girl had claimed in her complaint that she and the accused were in a relationship for the past two years and the man had promised to marry her.

The SP said the complainant had accused the man of putting the condition of conversion to Islam just before the wedding day on November 30. "The IPC section of rape has been included in the FIR as she alleged that the accused sexually exploited her on pretext of marriage," the SP said.

The minor girl claimed in her complaint that she and the accused were in a relationship for the past two years and the man had promised to marry her

Anurag Vats, Hardoi SP

Ever since Uttar Pradesh's anti-conversion ordinance came into being on November 28, around 6-7 cases have been registered under it. Last week also, a wedding between a Hindu girl and a Muslim boy was stopped in Lucknow by the police authorities despite the consent of both the families. The couple was asked by the police authorities to approach the district magistrate and inform him that it was going to be an inter-faith marriage and that there was no forcible conversion.

Last Saturday, a Muslim man and his brother were held in Moradabad after he tried to get married to a Hindu woman. The woman reportedly told the police that she was getting married off her own free will.

SNOW JOB

People clearing a bridge after the region received heavy snowfall, at Keylong in Himachal Pradesh on Saturday | PTI

Haryana govt wants MPs, MLAs included in Covid vaccination priority list

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

THE BJP-led Haryana Government has written to the Union Government that priority should be given to all the Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Legislative Assembly (MLAs) from the state when the Covid vaccination drive begins.

Sources said the state government wrote a letter to the Union Health Ministry on December 10 requesting that public representatives (MPs and MLAs) be included in the priority list for Covid vaccination as they are at high risk of getting exposed to the virus. Also, government officials such as deputy commissioners, sub-divisional magistrates, tehsildars and parwaris have been recommended to be put on the priority list.

Haryana Home and Health Minister Anil Vij said that the state health department has written to the Union Health Ministry recommending that public representatives who come in contact with the masses during their work also be included in the list. Those on the frontline of fight against the coronavirus such as doctors, nurses and paramedics are already on the priority list.

The Minister also said the state government is making all preparations in terms of building database of priority groups, cold chain infrastructure and identification and training of vaccinators.

There are 90 MLAs and 15 MPs in the state.

EXPRESS READ

High-level probe into deaths in MP hospital

Bhopal: A high-level probe has been ordered by Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan into an hour-long power cut at the multi-specialty Hamidia Hospital and lack of power back-up at the same hospital. The development assumed significance, after least three critical Covid patients, including an opposition Congress corporator, died at the hospital.

214 students of IIT-ISM terminated

Ranchi: The IIT-ISM in Dhanbad has terminated 214 students with immediate effect for not paying fees for the monsoon session of 2020-21 academic year. According to officials, the decision, which is alleged to have no precedent in the institute's long history, was taken after the students failed to pre-register themselves for various academic courses despite notices being issued to them.

Northeast's first human milk bank opens in city

The Satribari Christian Hospital in Guwahati opened the first "Human Milk Bank" of the Northeast. Financial assistance by the Rotary Club made it possible. The hospital said that some mothers cannot produce enough milk post-delivery due to various factors. "So, the best option for such a baby is pasteurized donor milk, stored in a milk bank. At the milk bank, we collect milk from the donor mother, who has enough milk and willing to donate. It is then pasteurized and stored in a deep freezer. We can store milk from six months to six years," the hospital said.

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR
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GUWAHATI DIARY

BJP, RSS step up activities ahead of Assembly polls

The organisational activities of BJP, which heads the Assam's ruling coalition, have gained momentum with the visit of RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat to the state. In the past two days he met Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, state BJP chief Ranjit Kumar Dass, several ministers and the leaders of various right wing organisations. According to a BJP insider, Bhagwat guided them on how the party and the organisations should go about as the state braces for Assembly elections due early next year. The RSS has managed to spread its reach in every nook and corner of Assam. Many attribute the BJP's juggernaut in the state to the RSS's continued activities, especially in remote areas.

Zoo to be upgraded to global standards

The Assam State Zoo-cum-Botanical Garden, popularly known as Guwahati Zoo, will get a makeover as it will be upgraded to international standards as decided by the Central government. Divisional Forest Officer Tejas Mariswamy, who is attached to the Guwahati Zoo, said it would collaborater with a foreign zoo for knowledge-sharing, DPR preparation, enclosure designing, animal management etc. "We will be in direct contact with our foreign counterpart. We can follow their practices and implement them here. The government will give us guidelines about the things that we have to do. There will be exchange of animals. As such, we will get exotic animals," he said.

IIT-G imparts training on grille fabrication

The IIT-Guwahati, in collaboration with Yuva Vikash Kendra, Guwahati, organised a hands-on training on entrepreneurial development programme on grille fabrication. The key theme of the intense training programme was skilling the youth so they can initiate their own small business enterprises. A total of 11 youth participated in the programme. One of them said he wished to start his own workshop in his village. "I am also looking forward to attending more related trainings at IIT-Guwahati to enhance my skills and make my future business a bigger enterprise," he said.

1,582,721
Covid-19 deaths have been recorded since the pandemic began globally, as per an AFP tally

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	-1	-9	SNY	Los Angeles	21	10	SNY
Colombo	31	21	SNY	Melbourne	30	18	LC
Dhaka	26	16	SNY	Moscow	-3	-4	LR
Dubai	26	16	SNY	New York	15	5	LC
Houston	22	7	TDS	Singapore	31	24	TDS
Istanbul	15	12	LR	Toronto	4	0	LC
London	12	10	LR	Washington	17	6	LC

Trump's election litigation hits SC dead end

Prez's personal lawyer vows to keep fighting despite US Supreme Court's dismissal of high-profile GOP lawsuit

WASHINGTON

THE US Supreme Court has rejected a lawsuit backed by President Donald Trump to overturn Joe Biden's election victory, ending a desperate attempt to get legal issues rejected by state and federal judges before the nation's highest court and subvert the will of voters.

Trump bemoaned the decision late Friday, tweeting: "The Supreme Court really let us down. No Wisdom, No Courage!"

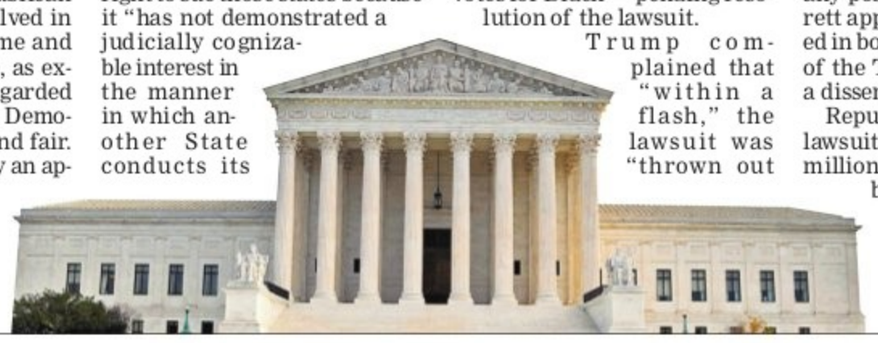
The high court's order earlier Friday was a stark repudiation of a legal claim that was widely regarded as dubious, yet embraced by the president, 19 Republican state attorneys general and 126 House Republicans.

Trump had insisted the court would find the "wisdom" and "courage" to adopt his baseless position that the election was the product of widespread fraud and should be overturned. But the nation's highest court emphatically disagreed.

Friday's order marked the second time this week that the court had rebuffed Republican requests that it get involved in the 2020 election outcome and reject the voters' choice, as expressed in an election regarded by both Republican and Democratic officials as free and fair. The justices turned away an appeal from Pennsylvania Republicans on Tuesday.

Trump had called the lawsuit filed by Texas against Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin "the big one" that would end with the Supreme Court undoing Biden's substantial Electoral College majority and allowing Trump to serve another four years in the White House.

In a brief order, the court said Texas does not have the legal right to sue those states because it "has not demonstrated a judicially cognizable interest in the manner in which another State conducts its elections." Justices Samuel Alito and Clarence Thomas, who have said previously the court does not have the authority to turn away lawsuits between states, said they would have heard Texas' complaint. But they would not have done as Texas wanted — setting aside those four states' 62 electoral votes for Biden — pending resolution of the lawsuit.



Trump complained that "within a flash," the lawsuit was "thrown out and gone, without even looking at the many reasons it was brought. A Rigged Election, fight on!"

Three Trump appointees sit on the high court. In his push to get the most recent of his nominees, Justice Amy Coney Barrett, confirmed quickly, Trump said she would be needed for any post-election lawsuits. Barrett appears to have participated in both cases this week. None of the Trump appointees noted a dissent in either case.

Republican support for the lawsuit and its call to throw out millions of votes was rooted in baseless claims of fraud, an extraordinary display of the party's willingness to countermand the will of voters. *AP*

ONLINE CAMPAIGNER

Iran hangs journo for 'corruption on Earth'

TEHRAN

IRAN on Saturday executed a once-exiled journalist over his online work that helped inspire nationwide economic protests in 2017, authorities said, just months after he returned to Tehran under mysterious circumstances.

Iranian state television and the state-run IRNA news agency said that Ruhollah Zam, 47, was hanged early Saturday morning. The reports did not elaborate.

In June, a court sentenced Zam to death, saying he had been convicted of "corruption on Earth," a charge often used in cases involving espionage or attempts to overthrow Iran's government.

Zam's website AmadNews and a channel he created on the popular messaging app Telegram had spread the timings of the protests and embarrassing information about officials that directly challenged Iran's Shiite theocracy.

Those demonstrations, which began at the end of 2017, represented the biggest challenge to Iran's rulers since the 2009 Green Movement protests and set the stage for similar mass unrest in November of last year.

The initial spark for the 2017 protests was a sudden jump in food prices. Many believe that hard-line opponents of Iranian President Hassan Rouhani instigated the first demonstrations in the conservative city of Mashhad in northeastern Iran, trying to direct public anger at the president. But as protests spread from town to town, the backlash turned against the entire ruling class. Soon, cries directly challenging Rouhani and even Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei could be heard in videos shared by Zam. *AP*

US emergency approval of Pfizer vaccine comes after WH's threat

WASHINGTON

THE US gave the final go-ahead late Friday to the nation's first COvid-19 vaccine. And Americans will start receiving the Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine from Monday after shipping on Sunday, the official in charge of the distribution operation said.

"Expect 145 sites across all the states to receive vaccine on Monday, another 425 sites on Tuesday. And the final 66 sites on Wednesday, which will complete the initial delivery of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine," said General Gus Perna.

While the FDA decision came only after public review of data from a huge ongoing study, it has also been dogged by intense political pressure from the Trump administration, which has accused the agency of being too slow and even threatened to remove FDA chief Stephen Hahn if a ruling did not come on Friday.

President Donald Trump said late Friday that Pfizer had "passed the gold standard of safety" and hailed the vaccine as "one of the greatest scientific accomplishments in history."

Dr Stephen Hahn, the FDA chief | AP

But the FDA decision followed tense discussions between White House chief of staff Mark Meadows and FDA Commissioner Stephen Hahn, according to a senior administration official who was familiar with the call but was not authorized to discuss private conversations. The chief of staff told Hahn his job was in jeopardy if the emergency use authorisation was not issued before Saturday, said a second administration official familiar with the conversation.

Earlier in the day Hahn had issued a statement indicating the agency was working rapidly to clear the vaccine.

Dr. Ashish Jha, dean of Brown University's school of public health, called the pressure an "unforced error" by the White House that could chip away at public confidence in a vaccine.

"It creates a veneer of political meddling," Jha said. "Every time you see the president get involved, you see vaccine confidence drop by 10%."

Hahn and other top health officials have been working for months to boost public confidence in the vaccine effort, which will eventually need to reach most Americans to suppress the virus.

Recent polls show only about half of all Americans are ready to roll up their sleeves for a shot. Many have safety concerns and want to wait. *AP*

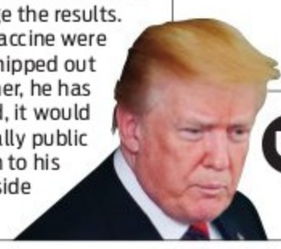
BLAMING EVERYTHING EXCEPT HIMSELF

Trump has been livid with the FDA for not moving faster to approve the shots, blaming the fact that a vaccine was not available before the Nov 3 election for his defeat

Trump also has leveled unfounded claims that drug companies deliberately delayed vaccine development to hinder his reelection chances, though there is no evidence to suggest that took place.

WIELDING VACCINE AS A POLITICAL TOOL

As he has refused to accept his loss to Biden, Trump also has told confidants he believes the vaccine is still being slow-walked in a bid to undermine his efforts to challenge the results. If the vaccine were shipped out sooner, he has argued, it would rally public opinion to his side



How Don meddled in vaccine approval

Trump and his deputies have proved unwilling to let regulators work through their careful review, which includes drafting safety warning labels and instructions for physicians. Trump has complained that FDA "is still a big, old, slow turtle.", bashing the pace of the FDA's vaccine review process

WHY THE U.S. FDA IS UNQIUE

The agency's careful approach is unique around the world in that the FDA actually reanalyses all company data to verify its accuracy. That's different from the abbreviated process used by the UK and other countries, which rely on summary data produced by manufacturers

150 FDA staffers have been working in shifts over nights, weekends and the Thanksgiving holiday to review tens of thousands of pages of Pfizer's application

Get the dam vaccines out NOW, Dr. Hahn. Stop playing games and start saving lives

Donald Trump tweeted on Friday

TYCOON'S TRIAL

Jimmy Lai, a 73-year-old Hong Kong media tycoon and advocate for democracy, on his way from prison to court, where he was denied bail on Saturday after being charged the previous day under Hong Kong's new security law | AP

UK gunboats on standby to protect fishing if Brexit talks fail

EU talks in final hours

British and EU negotiators began what may prove to be their final hours of trade talks on Saturday with a decision imminent on whether a post-Brexit deal is possible. Both sides have promised a decision on Sunday as to whether there is still time to close the gap in expectations before Britain leaves the EU single market at the end of the year. Boris Johnson's Brexit frontman David Frost and EU chief Ursula von der Leyen's chief negotiator Michel Barnier met in a Brussels conference centre in early afternoon.

LONDON

THE outcomes of Britain on Saturday readied armed Royal Navy ships to patrol its fishing waters if tempers flare after a "no-deal" Brexit as a make-or-break deadline approached for talks with the European Union.

Four 80-metre (260-feet) vessels have been placed on standby to guard British waters from EU trawlers in case the two sides decide to abandon efforts to secure a free-trade agreement on Sunday.

The development is part of increased contingency planning on both sides of the Channel, and evokes memories of the "Cod Wars" with Iceland over fishing rights in the North Atlantic in the 1960s and 70s.

UK PM Boris Johnson | AFP

Prime Minister Boris Johnson has said it is "very, very likely" the talks will fail, and Britain will revert to World Trade Organization (WTO) terms with its largest single trading partner.

European leaders have also been told the chances of a deal are slim with both sides at loggerheads over rules to govern fair competition and fishing rights in British territorial waters.

Deal or no deal, Britain will leave the European Union's single market and customs union on the evening of December 31, more than four years after a landmark referendum on membership of the bloc.

Hardline Brexit-supporting Conservative MPs have sought assurances from Johnson that the navy should be deployed to protect British waters.

Lawmaker Daniel Kawczynski said it would help "prevent illegal French fishing" when EU access ends.

Former Tory party chairman Chris Patten voiced concerns about a "runaway train of English exceptionalism" after headlines backing the military threat in the Daily Mail -- "We'll send in gunboats" -- and Daily Express -- "Gunships to guard our fish". *AFP*

AstraZeneca to acquire US firm Alexion for $39 bn

LONDON

BRITISH pharmaceuticals group AstraZeneca, which is finalising a vaccine against Covid-19, said Saturday it was buying US biotech firm Alexion for $39 billion to boost its work on immunology.

Both boards have agreed to the cash-and-stock deal, which values Alexion at $175 a share, a premium of 45 % to the Boston-based company's closing price on Friday.

Since taking the helm at AstraZeneca in 2012, company chief executive Pascal Soriot has pushed the group into lucrative treatments and the Alexion takeover will give it more heft in various areas. *AFP*

Adult content giant Pornhub hit by child abuse video claims

MONTREAL

ADULT content giant Pornhub is in turmoil over claims it turned a blind eye to videos of child abuse, rape and revenge porn, leading Mastercard and Visa to cut payments to the site as lawmakers in Canada, where it is based, seek to hold it accountable.

Pressure has been mounting on the porn giant since the publication of an expose by *New York Times* writer Nicholas Kristof, who accused Pornhub of profiting from abusive content – and appealed to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to crack down.

"Why does Canada host a company that inflicts rape videos on the world?" Kristof asked -- who shared the harrowing stories of several woman who attempted suicide over pornographic videos posted without their consent as teenagers. The Times report brought to a head a controversy already simmering in Canada over such content, where 20 lawmakers urged the justice minister in a November open letter to take swift action against both Pornhub and parent company MindGeek.

The public backlash has seen more than two million people back a petition to shut it down, and led Mastercard to block payments to Pornhub on Thursday. Visa quickly followed suit. *AFP*

Mystery over absence of Algerian PM after +ve test

ALGIERS

ALGERIAN President Abdelmadjid Tebboune marks a year in office Saturday but he is nowhere in sight since his evacuation to Germany more than six weeks ago for treatment of Covid-19. The president's office issued a statement on Nov 30 saying Tebboune had left a "specialised" medical facility, was continuing his convalescence and should be returning home "in the coming days." *AP*

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Gireesha S H**, R/o no.790, Ganganna Building Road, Rajagopal Nagar, Peenya 2nd stage, Bengaluru - 560058, have changed my name to **Girish S H**, vide affidavit dated 12/12/2020, sworn before notary M.K.Devaki, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I **PRAVEEN HONKALI**, S/O Sri.Ningappa Honkali, aged about 37 years, residing at No.123, 13th Main, M C Layout, Near Vijayanagar Post Office, Bangalore - 560040 have changed my son's name **TEJAS** to **TEJAS PRAVEEN HONKALI** vide affidavit dated 10/12/2020 before notary H S SAKALESH ARADHYA, Bangalore. Hence forth My Son shall be called **TEJAS PRAVEEN HONKALI.**

ANNOUNCEMENT
I, Army No: 6503817L, Rank: SEP/ASH, Name: SALMAN KHAN, Permanent Address residing at GADHBIRA, BARGIDIH, LUNDRA, LUNDRA, SUGUJA - 497101, CHHATTISGARH. I state that in my service record my brother's name is wrongly mentioned as **SAMIR KHAN** instead of his correct name is **MD SAMEER KHAN,** vide affidavit dated 12.12.2020 before notary K V MANI, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **YOGEESHA S.B** S/o **Basavarajappa N,** R/at No.3/9, 10th B main, Road, Basappa Layout, Virat Nagar, Bommanahalli, Bangalore-560068 have changed my name to **YOGEESH S.B** vide affidavit dated:11/12/2020 Before Notary **Hegde Ganapati Venkatraman** Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I hereby notify the members of public that I, Sri D Madhusudan Rao Naidu, having Aadhaar No. 6564 1089 5312, have changed my name from Sri D Madhusudan Rao Naidu (old name) to **SRI MADHUSUDAN SAI** (new name), vide the affidavit dated 10th December 2020 before notary P.V. Ramachandra Reddy, Chikkaballapur for all purposes and records.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, KAIPA BALASUBRAMANYAM, S/o.Kaipa Nagabhushanam, Residing at No.900, 1st Floor, Shree Mahal, 10th 'A' Cross, RBI Layout, Near Big Bazaar, J.P. Nagar 7th Phase, Bangalore-560078, Karnataka, India, have changed my name to VIJAY PRAKASH, for all purposes vide affidavit dated 09/12/2020 before Notary D.K. Rameshappa, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **NARAYAN BHAT R**, Aged About 91 Years S/o **Ramakrishna Bhat,** R/at no.431,Srilakshmi, Prabhu Layout,Near Chaitanya Techno School, Kudlu, Bangalore-560068, have changed my name to **NARAYANA RAO R,** vide affidavit dated: 11/12/2020 Before Notary **Hegde Ganapati Venkatraman** Bangalore.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT
RENT: 9000SQ.FT RCC ROOF Multi Purpose Space AVAILABLE WITH 30,000 VACANT LAND ATTACHED AT KOORGALLI INDUSTRIAL AREA MYSORE-18, CONTACT: **9845023928**

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **CHETAN GOWDA P,** S/o Pillappa, age 18 years, R/at Doddahullur, Jodidasarahalli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District-562 114 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **CHETHAN GOWDA P.** to **CHANDAN GOWDA .P,** hereafter I shall be known and called as **CHANDAN GOWDA .P** only for all practical purposes, vide affidavit dated 9-12-2020, sworn before Advocate and Notary **PRAKASH C.** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ALAMULLAKANDIYIL CHANDRASEKHARAN NAIR,** C/o **V.V.Damodaran Nair,** R/at No.21, Atharva, 4th Floor, Room No.401, 24th main, Garden Layout, Near Balaji Court, Sector -2, HSR Layout, Bengaluru-560102, have changed my name to **CHANDRASEKHARAN NAIR** vide affidavit dated:9/12/2020 Before Notary **N.Shankar** Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SINDHURA TUMMALA DESAI** Aged about 35 Years, W/o **Hariprasad. B,** R/at No.25, 2nd floor, 2nd Cross, Adhur Annayappa Layout, Kalkere Main Road, Ramamurthy Nagara, Bangalore- 560016 have changed my name to **SINDHURA PRASAD TUMMALA DESAI** vide affidavit dated:11/12/2020 Before Notary **Hegde Ganapati Venkatraman** Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Ms. R.MAMTHA, also known as Ms. MEHR KHAN, D/o. Shri.Ramachandra A.M. & Smt. N.USHA, Aged about 27 years, R/at No.26/1,13TH MAIN ROAD, J.C.NAGAR, LAKSHMI LAYOUT, BENGALURU-560086, have changed my name from R.MAMTHA alias MEHR KHAN, vide affidavits dated: 11/12/2020 before Notary G.KASPAR, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MOHAMMED YOUSUFF** S/o **Hidayathulla Krishnapuram,** R/at No.65, 5th floor, V Nagenahalli main road, Kanaka Nagar Bengaluru-560032 have changed my name to **MOHAMMED YOUSUF** vide affidavit dated: 12/12/2020 Before Notary **C.V.Earappa** Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **TAUSIF AHMED ZACKRIA,** R/at No.3, Iconic Regency, GF-01, 2nd Main, Kacharkanahalli, St.Thomas Town, Bengaluru-560084 have changed my name to **TAUSIF AHMED** vide affidavit dated:12/12/2020 Before Notary **H.S.Sakalesh Aradhya** Bangalore

brides

Saliya BOY, 30,171 C.M, Atham , Kannur(Kerala), B. E, Engineer, Bengaluru. Seeking Suitable alliance from Saliya girls . Call or whatsapp :9497726007, 9895718775.
CL00373924

grooms

Muslim girl 30/158, BTech , works at MNC, unlikely to conceive due to medical condition. Inviting alliance from educated and professionally qualified gentlemen with similar circumstances. Ph: 9846368503
CL00373549

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

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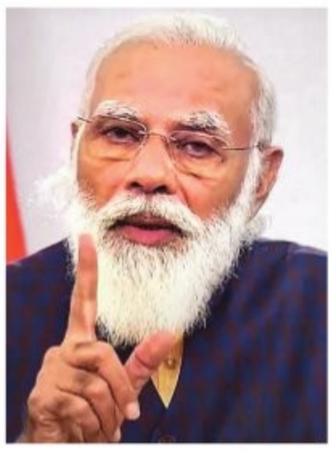
CL00374697

$579.34 bn was India's forex reserve as of December 4, according to RBI data. This was an increase of $4.525 billion over the previous week

Economic recovery faster than expected: PM Modi

Highlights record foreign investment inflows seen during pandemic

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi



HIGHLIGHTING the improvement in economic indicators, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said that the ongoing recovery has been faster than expected with the situation much better than it was in March.

"We have answers as well as a roadmap. The things learnt by the nation at the time of crisis have further strengthened the resolutions of the future. The credit goes to Indian entrepreneurs, youth, farmers and citizens," Modi said while speaking at the FICCI annual general meeting.

Talking about green shoots in the economy and the trust shown by investors, he said that India has seen record foreign direct investment and foreign portfolio investments during the pandemic. "The faith that the world placed on India in the last six years has further strengthened in the past few months. Be it FDI (foreign direct investment) or FPI (foreign portfolio investment)-foreign investors have made record investments in India and are continuing to do that," he said.

The government, he added, has also taken many initiatives in almost all sectors to ensure reforms. "From manufacturing to MSME, agriculture to technology, there has been all around reforms and the corporate tax is the most competitive in the world. Be it mining, defence or space new opportunities are popping up and in a vibrant economy when one sector grows it impacts others as well," Modi said.

Corporates, he said, will need to invest more in rural India and in small towns to drive India's growth story. "Rural India today has more active internet users than urban India, most of the start-ups are from Tier 2 and 3 cities. I request industry to invest more in rural and semi rural sector. 21st centry India's economic growth will be powered by villages and small towns," Modi said.

Going on to speak about the Atmanirbhara Bharat campaign, Modi said that the government wanted "infant industries in India to become independent" and that the new Production Linked Incentive scheme would help do that in those sectors that could make India a global champion.

"A decisive government reduces hurdles for others. The job of a decisive govt is to contribute as much as possible to the people of the country. India has a market, manpower, and capability to work with a mission mode. During pandemic we have seen how working together can help others as well," Modi added.

The PM also defended the Centre's recently passed agricultural reforms, which has resulted in widespread farmers protests. Modi said that this law would break barriers in agricultural and increase farmers' income.

"If you place barriers, which previous governments did, an industry or sector cannot grow. The recent agriculture reforms are a part of that barrier-breaking process. We are removing the barriers within Agricultural, food processing, storage and cold chain," he said, "Farmers will have access to new markets, their incomes will improve, the country's cold storage infrastructure will modernise. The biggest beneficiaries will be country's farmers, especially the small and marginal farmers."

NEWSCOPE

THE MEDIA'S MURDER AND MARIJUANA TRIAL WE ALL WANT TO FORGET

GURBIR SINGH

AS the year draws to a close, one sour memory we will want to forget is the shameful media trial of actor Sushant Singh Rajput's death, and the witch hunt of his partner Rhea Chakraborty. After all the heat and dust has settled, and after three government agencies were pressed into the job of unearthing a 'non-scam', all that has been discovered is that Sushant smoked pot and his partner helped him occasionally procure some.

Actor Sushant tragically was found hanging from a ceiling fan in his home in Bandra, Mumbai on June 14. The Mumbai Police investigation concluded a week later that the cause of death "is asphyxia due to hanging". The investigation also revealed that he was in clinical depression and was consulting a psychiatrist.

However, insidiously, and orchestrated by a shrill media campaign, the cause of Sushant Rajput's death was shifted from suicide to abetment of suicide, and finally to murder. Republic TV lead the charge; others followed. Sushant's ex-manager Disha Salian, had died falling off a 14th story balcony 5 days before Sushant took his life. The actor was possibly upset being linked to Salian's death, but an entire conspiracy theory was churned up linking politician Aditya Thackeray to Salian's death; and the Mumbai Police was accused of whitewashing a case of murder. No credible evidence was ever offered.

Fanciful Theories

Egged on by these fanciful theories, Rajput's father filed a FIR in Patna against Rhea Chakraborty and others charging them with abetment of suicide, theft and cheating. With lightening speed, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), under instructions of the Union home ministry, took over the case. Simultaneously, the Enforcement Directorate (ED), another central agency, registered a case of money laundering based on allegations of Sushant's father that ₹15 crore had vanished from the actor's account.

To complete the circle, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), the country's anti-drug enforcement agency, was drawn in. Another FIR was registered against Rhea, her brother Showik and 3 others, invoking sections of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS Act). When the CBI and ED could not make much headway on the 'murder' charges, Rhea was arrested for being a drug financier and an operative in the drug delivery chain. She was finally given bail on 20 October by the Bombay High Court, but not before she had spent 6 weeks in jail and had her reputation destroyed. The High Court found no evidence to support the NCB's charges, and said at best she had procured small quantities of the weed to support her boyfriend's habit. By now, Bollywood too was in the dock. The industry was portrayed as a hub of drug-dealing, cocaine-consuming degenerates that were behind the harassment and deaths of simple folk like Sushant.

The lack of evidence for the murder rap was make good by creating a spectacle outside the Narcotics Bureau office in Colaba, south Mumbai, where a bevy of Bollywood divas including Deepika Padukone, Sara Ali Khan, and Shraddha Kapoor were interrogated and paraded as eye candy for news channels.

By October, the picture was clear. The 3 government agencies pressed into service could not find any foul play. Dr. Sudhir Gupta of AIIMS, leader of the CBI-designated forensic medical team, admitted: "Sushant's death is a case of suicide. Murder completely ruled out." The ED too conceded there was no substantial money transfer to Rhea or her family. Case closed.

So why was the spectacle created? Who gained from these frenzied shows on TV where Rhea was denounced as a 'witch' and threats of rape were held out over social media. The Union government played along, lending its investigative agencies to cock a snook at the Shiv Sena-led Maharashtra government. For the news channels, it was nothing but running 'entertainment content' that cost nothing and earned high eyeball numbers. Good journalism be dammed!

Legalize Marijuana

The Delhi High Court finally stepped in on 9 November, restraining Republic TV and Times Now from broadcasting defamatory content against the film industry. Upbraiding the channels, the court said: "You represent the fourth pillar (of democracy), and people are scared about the condition of fourth estate in this country." The one 'crime' the investigation has proved is that Sushant was an occasional weed smoker; but isn't it about time the drug was removed from the list of banned 'narcotics' in the NDPS Act. Weed or cannabis gives a mild, lingering high, and it can be disputed whether alcohol is any better. Canada, South Africa, Uruguay and Georgia have legalized it, and in 2018 California joined 14 other US states that have legalized it. More than half the world has either decriminalized weed, or does not enforce penalties.

Medicinal properties well-known

Marijuana's medicinal qualities are well known by now and one of the ingredients, tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), is proven to provide relief from chronic pain

The weed's medicinal qualities are well known and one of the ingredients, tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), provides relief from chronic pain. Cannabis is also commonly used to regulate and prevent diabetes, eases depression and is said to work wonders in cancer treatment. Illegal trade in the drug worldwide is valued at around $5.8 billion today, and can therefore be a substantial source of taxes.

'Bhang', the edible mixture made from the buds, leaves, and flowers of the female cannabis, or marijuana plant, is part of India's Hindu temple culture for thousands of years. It is strange we are still imprisoning people for its use when it suits us.

Borrowers only need ask lenders to invoke Resolution Framework

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

BORROWERS seeking the resolution of their bad debt under the Covid-19 stress relief scheme as suggested by the KV Kamath committee, are required to merely submit a request by December 31 to the lending institution if they require the invocation of the resolution process, clarified the Reserve Bank of India on Saturday.

The central bank added that borrowers are not mandated to submit any resolution plan of any form at the time of request for invocation.

"The Resolution Framework does not require any resolution plan in any form to be submitted to the lending institutions at the time of request for invocation," the central bank said in an update of its frequently asked question (FAQ) on the Resolution Framework for Covid-19 related stress.

"Borrowers are required to submit a request. Thereafter, the lending institutions will take an in-principle decision - as per their Board approved policy - on invoking the Resolution Framework. After such invocation, the specific contours of the resolution plan to be implemented may be decided by the lenders, in consultation with the borrower," RBI added in its compilation of frequently asked queries.

> Borrowers are required to submit a request. Thereafter, the lending institutions will take an in-principle decision as per their Board approved policy on invoking the Resolution Framework
>
> RBI

For personal loans, the resolution plan is to be implemented within 90 days from the date of invocation, while for all other loans the prescribed period is 180 days.

The central bank further clarified that the Resolution Framework may also be invoked for resolution of all exposures of lending institutions to eligible borrowers, including investment exposures that are credit substitutes such as corporate bonds, commercial papers etc. "However, the Resolution Framework is without prejudice to all applicable guidelines issued by the relevant financial sector regulators and other Departments of the RBI in respect of any particular exposure," the central bank pointed out.

Every village should have affordable data: Tata chairman

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ Bengaluru

UNDERLINING the importance of technology in a world shaped by the Covid-19 pandemic, Tata Group chairman N Chandrasekaran said on Saturday that India has limitless opportunities and that it needs to focus on talent, data, and enabling bandwidth. Chandrasekaran, speaking at the 93rd Annual Convention of industry chamber FICCI, also said that the Indian government should set up a regulatory framework for data privacy, localisation, and taxation in general.

While companies, he noted, needed to think of setting up projects on a bigger scale, the government should enable every village in the country with affordable data and sufficient bandwidth. "2020 marks the decoupling of US and China. Countries and companies will need to de-risk and balance their supply chains for the future. In all of these trends, I see a tremendous and limitless opportunity for India," the Tata Group Chairman said.

Chandrasekaran said that digital adoption has accelerated by over the decade with video conferencing, doctor consultations, payments, and education having moved online. The work from home culture is growing and making firms rethink their strategies, he noted. Speaking about the Tata Group's focus on digitization, Chandrasekaran said, "Not only are we strengthening our digital business, but we are also spearheading new platforms in tech," he said.

ITC Paperboards forays into speciality papers

JAYANTA ROY CHOWDHURY
@ New Delhi

THE ₹6,100 crore turnover ITC Paperboards & Speciality Papers Division is foraying into new speciality papers to replace plastic packaging amidst growing consumer awareness on climate change-the consumer response to the Covid pandemic is also helping spur the change.

Said Vadiraj Kulkarni, CEO of ITC's PSPD, "Our new range of products meant for the delivery and food serving markets or as take-away to replace plastics are doing well as consumer preferences are changing . environmental consciousness as well as greater stress on hygiene and contactless delivery during these times has been a help."

ITC has come up with a range of products called Filopack, Fuilobev, and Filoserve with water, oil, and grease resistant properties meant for food and beverage packaging, keeping in mind that Indian cuisine has a greater oil and grease content than most others. It has also come up with paper bowls-branded Indobowl-that can replace plastic containers.

"We see the growth of e-commerce, takeaways, and the need for environmentally friendly packaging spurring business opportunities for us," said Kulkarni. The division has also developed a 'Green Stiffener' to replace Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE) used in making antifungal soap wraps.

Studies indicate that the eco-friendly packaging industry will grow at a compounded annual growth rate of 7.5 per cent between 2020-2025. Piggybacking on this expectation, ITC has already announced that it will be investing around ₹2,500 crore into the paper and paperboard business and expand capacity to 1 mt by 2025. Some ₹2,000 crore, or 80 per cent of the money, would go into expanding its facilities at Bhadrachalam in Telengana.

Tata Motors VRS scheme to cut costs

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

HOMEGROWN auto major Tata Motors on December 11 rolled out yet another voluntary retirement scheme (VRS)—the third one in just four years, according to reports.

Media reports citing a communique from the company to employees say that the new VRS scheme is applicable to all permanent employees of the automaker and staff working at the plants.

The scheme will remain open until January 9, 2021, and will cover nearly half of Tata Motors' 42,957 employees, the reports say.

The email talking about the VRS scheme was sent by Ravindra Kumar GP, president and chief human resource officer on December 11. "Tata Motors continues to implement its turnaround plans effectively. Towards this, we are also reviewing cost structures proactively while ensuring that our commitment towards employee welfare and well being remains foremost," the email said, "As a first step and in response to employee requests, we are announcing a VRS for permanent employees and workers."

The scheme will let eligible employees avail early retirement by drawing certain compensation and benefits.

EXPRESS READ

Diamonds see demand recovery: De Beers

New Delhi: Diamond jewellery has witnessed a sharp recovery from October onwards, with the industry is expected to do 70-85 per of last year's sales, according to De Beers India Managing Director Sachin Jain, as reported by PTI. "I would certainly predict that we will be back to between 70-85 per cent, of 2019. We will certainly be lower than last year, but not to a tune that it is unrecoverable," Jain told PTI.

Central bank appoints three more executive directors

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has elevated three Chief General Managers (CGMs)-Subramanian, Rohit Jain, and R S Ratho-as Executive Directors (EDs) with effect from December 11. With these appointments, the central bank now has 13 EDs as opposed to the earlier 10.

While Subramanian as ED will look after Foreign Exchange Department, Financial Markets Regulation Department, Internal Debt Management and International Department, Jain will look after the Department of Supervision (Risk, Analytics and Vulnerability Assessment), the central bank said in a statement. Prior to being promoted, Subramanian was CGM-in-Charge, Enforcement Department and Jain was CGM-in-Charge, Department of Supervision.

Ratho will look after the Financial Markets Operations Department, Department of External Investments and Operations, Legal Department and Secretary's Department. He was CGM, Financial Markets Operations Department.

LEADING THE CHARGE

India's small towns constitute 75% of digital tutoring market

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ Bengaluru

THE boom in online education technology triggered by the pandemic has not remained limited to the formal schooling industry. In fact, a rcent survey released by Bengaluru-based edtech start-up Teachmint shows that the informal tutoring industry has also moved online and leading this charge are India's small towns and villages. According to the data collated by Teachmint, tier-II cities and other towns and villages now constitute 75 per cent of the country's digital tutoring market. Only 25 per cent of new enrollments are from metro towns, with small towns opting for learning in multiple Indian languages, it added.

The report pointed out that in comparison to the content-centric edtech models or the organised competitive exams platforms, the informal tutoring sector in India has a much bigger market with a majority of opportunities still left untapped.

The report also says that the top five states leading the adoption of online teaching overall are Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, Karnataka, and Madhya Pradesh. However, private tutors have adopted digital modes of learning country wide-from Srinagar to Port Blair. According to Teachmint, online classes are no longer a pandemic-triggered compulsion, but are fast becoming mainstream thereby establishing that personalised instructor-led edtech is a large opportunity in India.

Teachmint's platform has also seen significant enrollment, with 2.4 lakh teachers joining it since May and an inflow of 50,000 teacher enrollments every month. According to Mihir Gupta, co-founder and CEO, Teachmint, the company offers two-way video communication and operates a full suite of services such as managing assessments, notes sharing, tuition fee managemen, etc. These features, he noted, "will remain relevant even when face to face teaching is fully restored fully".

Kremlev elected AIBA president

Umar Kremlev of Russia has been elected president of the international boxing association (AIBA), after winning the election on Saturday with 57.33 per cent of votes. The election was held virtually. It was attended by 155 national federations from five continents.

IN PINK OF HEALTH BEFORE TEST

Batsmen getting runs to go with form of bowlers leave India in good stead against wounded Aussies

VENKATA KRISHNA B @Chennai

RARELY have India enjoyed this kind of preparation ahead of an important Test series overseas. Never mind the gruelling schedule — where they played six internationals in 12 days — that continues to pose serious threats to workload management, the two practice matches in Sydney over the past week have given them not only ideal preparation, but has also helped them identify at least 10, who will take the field in Adelaide on December 17.

On Saturday, Day 2 of the practice match against Australia A, the batting unit put up a sort of performance that will enable them to carry precious confidence into the first Test. Hanuma Vihari, who struggled in the three innings he had played Down Under earlier, found runs. More than the unbeaten 104 he scored, the time he spent in the middle would please the team management.

Hanuma Vihari (left) and Rishabh Pant scored unbeaten centuries for Indians against Australia A at Sydney Cricket Ground on Saturday | CA

There is a dilemma over Wriddhiman Saha and Rishabh Pant. But the left-hander almost sealed his slot with 73-ball unbeaten 103, which saw him move from 81 to century in just five balls of the last over.

The only concern remains at top. Prithvi Shaw, who is tipped to open alongside Mayank Agarwal, lasted only eight balls on Saturday. In the two practice matches, he has faced a total of 76 deliveries, the lowest among the batting unit. Which leaves the question, should India be bold and hand a Test debut to Shubman Gill.

Though there is an experienced opener in KL Rahul, that India didn't even field him in the practice match suggests he is not in contention for a spot in the XI at Adelaide. With regards to Gill, India's think tank has been keeping him as an option to replace Virat Kohli after the first Test.

Though Gill appeared in T20 mode in the first practice match and to an extent in the first innings of the ongoing practice match, on Saturday he showed a bit of restraint. While he didn't curb his natural instinct, the number of balls he plays away from the body kept decreasing as his stay in the middle got longer. More importantly, he has spent valuable time facing the pink ball, which has a habit of favouring the seamers.

This is why India should make sure they field their best XI in Adelaide, as this could be their best chance to go 1-0 up before the Boxing Day Test begins. Australia are hampered by injuries. If David Warner's groin problem wasn't enough, his replacement Will Pucovski has also been ruled out of the first Test because of concussion. Which means, Australia now have two openers — Marcus Harris and Joe Burns — who are short on runs. Sunday is their last chance to run into form before the Test.

Given how well the bowling unit of Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Umesh Yadav and Navdeep Saini have performed in the practice matches, there is little to separate between India and Australia on the bowling front. Take out the openers quickly and Steve Smith and Marnus Labuchagne would soon be out there.

From nowhere, India have got an opening before the Test series begins. From having an ideal preparation — they would have spent more than a month in Australia before the first Test — India have important things aligning in their favour. They have a chance to win the practice match on Sunday, something that should further enhance their confidence as they head to Adelaide on Monday.

Brief scores: Indians 194 and 386/4 (Vihari 104 n.o, Pant 103 n.o, Gill 65, Agarwal 61) vs Australia A 108.

Six units missing in BCCI's draft voter list

ATREYO MUKHOPADHYAY @Chennai

NAMES of six state units — Punjab, Rajasthan, Odisha, J&K, Tripura, Meghalaya — are missing in the draft electoral list of the BCCI. At the annual general meeting (AGM) on December 24, the vice-president will be elected along with two members of the IPL Governing Council. According to the new BCCI constitution, there are 34 state associations. The list contains names of representatives from 28 of those.

This list released by electoral officer AK Joti more than 24 hours after it was scheduled to be released by 5 pm, December 11, is not the final one. Objections to names in this list can be filed on December 13 and 14. After examining the objections, the electoral officer will release the final list. It is expected on December 15. Filing nominations will begin after that.

Since this is a draft list, it is possible that names of the missing units will be added to the final one. At least, that is what the Punjab Cricket Association is thinking. "I think our name got left out by mistake. We will bring this to the attention of the electoral officer. Hopefully, our association will be added to the list tomorrow," said PCA secretary Puneet Bali. It is also possible that the electoral officer has found something wrong with the submissions. The notice announcing the names of 28, though, does not mention why the six are not included.

Some of the notable names include Mohammed Azharuddin representing Hyderabad. The other international cricketer is Brijesh Patel from Karnataka. The name of Rajeev Shukla as UP representative may raise eyebrows, considering that there are members who believe he should be taking a cooling-off break.

India keen to host Olympics in 2032, says Batra

ASHIM SUNAM @Bengaluru

THE Indian Olympic Association (IOA) are still keen to bid for the 2032 Games. Even if countries like Australia, who have held Olympics previously, have expressed an interest, the IOA are still in touch with people to see if they can follow up their expression of interest with a bid. The Association president, Narinder Batra, who was in the city for an event, spoke about it, the country's need to improve in specific events ahead of the 2024 Games. Excerpts:

On India's Olympic bid...
2032, there is no bidding. That system is over. We are in touch with people. There is Australia, Spain, Holland. We will see. We have given an expression of interest. Then Covid-19 came and everything went into a standstill mode. We will be having a meeting in the first quarter of the next year. Not only for the Olympics, but for other games also. 2030 Asian Games is gone now. Could be CWG in 30..... We are still keen on 2032.

On Tokyo Olympics taking shape....
The Olympics is confirmed. There is no going back. We have got enough news from IOC and others. The only thing to see now is the number of fans. Vaccinations have started in the UK and there could be priority for Olympics and athletes. Let's see. I would love to see packed stadiums but I am not the deciding authority. IOC is confident and the Japanese government has also said what the protocols are. Once the vaccinations start, relaxations should start. Flights haven't opened yet. Those things will be relaxed after December 31.

What about 2024 Olympics?
For the 2024 Olympics, what's bothering me is athletics and swimming. Athletics has almost 50 medals, multiplied by three, it's 150. We aren't getting a single medal. In swimming, we don't get a medal despite 45 medals available. I am not happy but working with concerned people. At least we have achieved the 'B' Qualification mark in boys but not in girls. Cycling has 28 medals, fencing 27 and gymnastics 30. Where are our athletes in these sports?

EXPRESS READ

Vultures to meet Mount Joy CC in final

BENGALURU: Vultures Cricket Club beat Swastic Union Cricket Club (1) by nine wickets to reach the finals of the YSR Memorial tournament at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium on Saturday. Nischal D and Shrijith K L starred with respective tons while chasing 224 runs to win. They reached the target in the 44th over. Darshan MB and J Suchith scalped four wickets each for Vultures. They will meet Mount Joy Cricket Club in the final on Monday. Mount Joy defeated Sir Syed Cricketers by three wickets.

Rohit to leave for Australia, Pucovski ruled out

MUMBAI: The BCCI on Saturday declared Rohit Sharma fit to join the Indian team in Australia but said a call on his participation in the last two matches of the Test series there will be taken after a reassessment by the squad's medical team. He has been given a programme to follow during two weeks of quarantine. Australian opener Will Pucovski, who suffered a concussion in the first practice match, is out of the first Test. Marcus Harris is his replacement.

Angulo's sixth lifts Goa to fourth on ISL table

BAMBOLIM: Igor Angulo struck towards the end of the first half to hand FC Goa a 1-0 win over Odisha FC on Saturday. It was Goa's second successive win in the Indian Super League. The win propelled FC Goa to the fourth spot in the standings. With just a point from five matches, Odisha are 10th in the 11-team league. This was Angulo's sixth goal in the competition. Arshdeep Singh shone for Odisha but inefficiency up front meant the side remained winless.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that the Original Sale Deed of Property belonging to **Mr. S. Muneer S/o, Sheik Mohiddin,** Registered as Document No.KRI-1-13032-2005-06, CD NO.KRID171, DT.19.1.2006. Book 1. Registered in the Office of Sub Registrar, K.R. Puram, Bangalore and said document is in respect of Schedule Property is lost while traveling towards Govindapura, on 17.11.2020, and a complaint has already been lodged Vide Lost Report No.151931, dt. 24.11.2020, at Crime Branch Bengaluru City Police, regarding loss of Sale Deed by my client, any person's finding same may handed over to the undersigned or any police station. Further, my client shall not be held responsible for any act, deed or transactions done on the lost document for any reason. Despite this specific Public Notice, if any one tries to use the lost document by misrepresentation or mis utilizes the above said document, then legal action will be initiated as per law by my client and anybody dealing with the schedule property in this regard other than my client will be doing so at their own risk.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece & parcel of property bearing Site **No.25**, Khatha No. 108, Property No.105, situated at Doddabanahalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, measuring East to West : 30 feet; North to South: 40 feet and bounded on **East by: Site No.24; West by: Site No.26; North by: Site No.15; South by: 20 feet Road.**

LAYAK ALI .A., B.Com.,LL.B.
Advocate & Consultant
No.31, 6th Main Road, Pillappa Block, Ganganagar, RT Nagar PO, Bangalore-32
Phone No.9844174668

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client **Sri. MUNISWAMY .V.,** Son of Venkatagiriyappa, aged about 32 years, Residing at 5th Cross, Vinayaka Layout, Immadihalli Main Road, Whitefield, Bangalore-560066, is intending to purchase the schedule property from **Smt. S. GEETHA.,** Wife of Sri. Manjunath, Daughter of Sri M. Shivaram, Aged about 48 years, Residing at No.25, 2nd Cross, Immadihalli Main Road, Opp. to Archana Bakery, Whitefield Post, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore 560066.

Any person/s claiming any manner of right, title and interest over the schedule property are called upon to lodge such claim/s or objection/s with the undersigned in writing with supporting documents within **15 (Fifteen)** days from the date of this publication. If no such objections or claims are received within the said period, my client will proceed to purchase the schedule property and the claims received after the said period will not be considered.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Property bearing **Site No.2, Old Khatha No. 22/4/6, measuring East to West 30 Feet and North to South 40 Feet totally measuring 1200 Square Feet includes of Ground Floor 8 Square and First Floor 4 Square with RCC roofed with mosaic flooring situated at Whitefield Village, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Presently comes under the Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike ward No. 84, Bangalore District,** and bounded as follows;

East by : Property Belongs to Jayappa, West by : Road, North by: Property Belongs to Noor Jan, South by: Private Property.

Sd/- **Sri. M. Ramu,** Advocate,
No.3, First Floor, Vinayaka Layout,
Immadihalli Main Road Whitefield, Bangalore.
Mob:- 9740406899

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDL. DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE CUM FAST TRACT COURT OF VELLORE.

I.A. No: 45 / 2019 in O.S. No: 48/2012

Thiru. M.K. Shanmugam ...Petitioner /Plaintiff
- Versus -
Thiru. A.R.Parameswaran @ Babu and 4 others. ....Respondents/ Defendants

R-5. M/s. Kumar Enterprises, Represented by its Managing partner, **Arun Goenka,** a partnership firm, having office at No: 12, 5th Cross, Ashatha Nagar, M.S.R Hospital Road, Bangalore-560 094.

The petitioner / plaintiff filed the final decree application to divide the suit properties into two equal shares and allot one such share to the petitioner / plaintiff. The final decree application has been posted No: 5 of your appearance on 05-01-2021. If you have got any objection, you have to appear either in person or through an Advocate on **05-01-2021 at 10.00 A.M.** and file your objection. If you failed to appear on that day, the matter will be decided exparte.

J. SRIDHARAN, M.A., M.L.,
D. ANITHAKUMARI, M.L.,
L.S. RAJKUMAR, M.Com., L.L.B.,
Advocates, Vellore-632 009.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, the undersigned advocate on behalf of my clients **Smt. Nagamma & Others** have filed above petition for the death certificate of **Papanna S/o. Late Munishamappa** was died on 14-12-1988 at Koira Hosur Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural Dist. If any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same can appear before the Civil Judge & J.M.F.C. **At Devanahalli** and **date of hearing on 11/01/2021** at 11.00 A.M. In **C. Misc. No. 258/2020.**

By Order of the Court, Sd/- Chief Ministerial Officer
Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Devanahalli
Sri Chethan Kumar S, Advocate

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Department of Atomic Energy
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
Yelwal, Mysore - 571130
Telephone : Ph : 0821-240 2154 .Fax : 0821-240 3064

BRIEF NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Superintending Engineer, BARC, Mysuru invites for and on behalf of the president of India, Sealed item rate tenders from approved and eligible contractors of CPWD/PWD, Other Government Organizations having experience in works of 'Similar Nature' for the following works:

1	**Tender Reference No.**	**BARC/MYS/RF/ JKM / 2020-21 / 01**
2	**Name of work**	Upkeep Jobs in Refining Facility.
3	**Estimated Cost**	**Rs.4,39,000/-** (Four lakhs Thirty NineThousand only)
4	**Earnest Money Deposit @ 2%**	**Rs. 8,780/-** (Eight thousand Seven hundred Eighty only)
5	**Period of Completion**	**10 Months**
6	**Security Deposit**	**2.5 % of tendered value**
7	**Performance Guarantee**	**5% of tendered value**
8	**Cost of Tender Document**	**Rs.500/-(non-refundable)**
9	**Tender Sale Period**	**From 14.12.2020 to 21.12.2020** (11 am to 4 pm on all working days)
10	**Due date &Time for submission of Tender**	**29.12.2020 till 4.00 pm**
11	**Date & time for opening of Tender**	**29.12.2020 at 4.15 pm**

Sd/- **Superintending Engineer**
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
For & on behalf of the President of India

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, R.W.S.&S. DIVISION, NUAPADA
Govt. of Odisha "e" Procurement Notice
Bid Identification No. RWS&S_10/2020-21

O-669: The Executive Engineer, R.W.S & S Division, Nuapada on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites bids through e-procurement in double cover system in conformity with the terms & conditions of the detailed tender call notice (DTCN) from the Contractor registered with the Odisha State Govt. & Contractors of equivalent grade/class registered with Central Govt. / any other State Govt. / MES / Railway & Reputed Engineering firms having valid & up to date Contractors registration certificate, GST clearance Certificate & PAN Card and possessing compatible Digital Signature Certificate as given in the DTCN to be eventually drawn up in the standard Lump sum (G2) contract form.

Nature of Work: - Rural Piped Water Supply schemes in different villages under Nuapada district.
No. of Tender: - 10 (Ten) nos.
Approx. Estimated Cost: - **Rs.67.45 Lakhs to Rs.232.40 Lakhs**
Period of completion: - 06 (six) months
Tender Cost: - Rs.10000/-
Class of Contractor: - **Class B & A**
Date and Time of availability of bid document in the portal: - **14.12.2020 at 10.00 A.M.**
Last date/Time for receipt of bids in the portal: - **23.12.2020 up to 5.00 P.M.**
Date of Opening of bid: - **24.12.2020 at 11.00 A.M.**
The bidders have to participate in online bidding only. Further details can be seen from the **website http://tendersorissa.gov.in**

Sd/- (Er G. C. Nayak),
Executive Engineer, RWSS Division. Nuapada
OIPR 25050/11/0004/2021

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004

BID No.- 63/2020-21 **E-TENDERS** **Date : 07.12.2020**

E-Tenders are invited for & behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items. Only E-offer will be accepted for which vendors must have Class III Digital Signature and registration on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence:- S.No.- Tender No. (Due Date) Description and Quantity. **S.No.**:- 1., 05201760A (24.12.2020), Cu-Coated Welding Wire, Part No. 76116062, 4110 Kgs., **S.No.**:- 2., 05205364 (28.12.2020), UV Bulb 100W, 05 Nos, **S.No.**:- 3., 05205366 (28.12.2020), Filter Element, 24 Nos, **S.No.**:- 4., 05205367 (28.12.2020), Smart Motor Controller, 01 Nos, **S.No.**:- 5., 05205374 (28.12.2020), Rotor Blade, 100 Nos, **S.No.**:- 6., 05205375 (28.12.2020), Set of Rotor Shim, 30 Set., **S.No.**:- 7., 05205376 (28.12.2020), CC Insert RCMT, 130 Nos, **S.No.**:- 8., 05205377 (31.12.2020), Angular Contact Ball Bearing, 04 Nos, **S.No.**:- 9., 05205378 (31.12.2020), Spare Parts for Godrej Fork Lifter, 01 Set., **S.No.**:- 10., 05205379 (31.12.2020), Cleanble Type Stainless Steel Filter Element, 03 Nos, **S.No.**:- 11., 05205380 (31.12.2020), Filter Element, 01 Set., **S.No.**:- 12., 05205381 (31.12.2020), Spare Parts for Voltas Fork Lifter, 01 Set. **The details of above tenders are available on www.blw.Indianrailways.gov.in and www.ireps.gov.in.**

PRO/BLW/S-69 **PCMM**

/banaraslocowork "Website : http://blw.indianrailways.gov.in

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Government of India
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
Advanced Machines Division

Brief NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER/Public Tender
Tender No: BARC/MYS/AMD/PF/CS/WT-07/2020/

Sl. No.	Description	Details
1	**Name of the Work**	HPEN (High Phosphorous Electro-less Nickel) Plating (Chemical) Plant Operation & maintenance related jobs in general & round the clock shift operations under the supervision of departmental staff for a period of 12 months extendable to another 12 months under the same terms & conditions.
2	**Estimated Cost**	**Rs. 70,00,000/-** (Rupees Seventy Lakhs only)
3	**Earnest Money Deposit**	**NIL** Please provide enclosed format for Bid-Security Declaration.
4	**Cost of Tender Document**	**NIL**
5	**Tender Processing Fee**	**Rs. 4130-** e-payment through electronic mode (Non- returnable) in favour of 'M/s ITI Limited, New Delhi'
6	**Period of Completion**	**12 (Twelve)** calendar months including monsoon period.
7	**Request for purchase /Download of Tender Document (excel / word formats)**	From **09/12/2020 (11:00 Hrs.)** to **28/12/2020 (15:00 Hrs.)** on website **www.tenderwizard.com/DAE.**
8	**Last date and time for closing of online submission of tenders:**	**08/01 /2021 (15:00 Hrs.)**
9	**Last date for submission of original documents towards receipt of e-payment towards Tender Processing Fee and EMD**	On or before**15/01/2021 (15:00 Hrs.)** at Superintending Engineer's office **in a sealed super scribed envelope mentioning name of work and NIT Number.** Original documents should be submitted preferably in person. However documents sent by post or courier will also be considered provided the same is received within due date & time.
10	**Date and time for online opening of Part 1**	**18/01/2021 (15:00Hrs)**
11	**Date of opening for Part 2 of qualified bidders**	**28/01/2021**

Interested tenderers may please refer detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details, which can be downloaded from web site **www.tenderwizard.com/dae** and **www.barc.gov.in**

Sd/-
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
For & on behalf of the President of India

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
CENTRAL CIRCLE, RURAL WORKS, BHUBANESWAR
No. _____/Date.04.12.2020
"e" Procurement Notice for Roads Work under Repair & Restoration and Periodical Maintenance for the year 2020-21
O-688

1.	Name of the Work	:	Road Works under Repair and Restoration and Periodical Maintenance for the year 2020-21
2.	Total No. of Packages	:	3 No. of Road Works
3.	Estimated Cost of the Package	:	Varies from Rs.92.46 lakhs to Rs.160.44 lakhs
4.	Class of Contractor	:	a) Estimated cost more than Rs.40.00 lakhs & up to Rs. 3.00 Crores. B Class & A class (of Odisha PWD) or relevant class of other licensing authorities
5.	Period of completion	:	As mentioned in Colmun-6 of the Annexure
6.	Offered rates by bidder	:	The offered rate by the contractor shall be excluding GST.
7.	Other details	:	

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding		Date & Time of opening of tender	
		From	To	Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6
Superintending Engineer, Central Circle Rural Works, Bhubaneswar	Tender- Online-C.C.-10 of 2020	14.12.2020 at 11.00 AM	21.12.2020 Up to 5.00 PM	23.12.2020 at 11.00 AM	28.12.2020 at 11.00 AM

Further details can be seen from the web site www.tendersorissa.gov.in
Superintending Engineer
Central Circle, Rural Works, Bhubaneswar OIPR 25082/11/0005/2021

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ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ (ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ)
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಧಾರವಾಡ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಧಾರವಾಡ

ಕ್ರಸಂ : ಕಾನಿಇಂಧಾ/ಪಿಜಿ-4/ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ/2020-21/5765 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 11-12-2020

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ – I.F.T – KW- 3 & 4
ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಸ್ಕ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ, ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ e-Proc- ಸ್ಕ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅರ್ಹ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಎರಡೂ ಲೈಸನ್ಸನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಇ-ಆಡಳಿತ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಥವಾ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಿದಂತೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಇನ್ನುಳಿದ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಖಚಿತಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಟೆಂಡರಿಗಾಗಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಸದರಿ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಇನ್ನುಳಿದ ವಿವರಗಳು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿವೆ.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಹೆಸರು	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ	ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ
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	ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶಿರ್ಷಿಕೆ 2059				
1	(1) Annual maintenance of House keeping, land Scaping and Sewage Treatment Plant to New Court Complex Building of M.Thimmasagar at Hubli in Dharwad Didtrict (Indent No.132923) (2) Elecrtical maintenance of New Court Complex Building (DG Sets, UPS, Fire Fighting System, Lighting Management System (LMS), Building management system (BMS), CCTV, Access Control system, Fire Alaram System, Public Address System, Heat Ventilation Air Conditioning (HVAC), Internal and External Electrical Work, and LAN Work)for the year 2020-21 from 01.01.2021 to 31.03.2020 (Indent No.133441) Work Indent No.133456	**156.18**	**19/12/2020**	**21/12/2020**	**22/12/2020**

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರರು,
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UN chief to world leaders: Declare climate emergency

Warns countries heading towards catastrophic temperature rise

ENVIRONMENT

UN chief Antonio Guterres on Saturday urged world leaders to declare a "state of climate emergency" and shape greener growth after the coronavirus pandemic, as he opened a summit marking five years since the landmark Paris Agreement.

The Climate Ambition Summit, being held online, comes as the United Nations warns current commitments to tackle rises in global temperatures are inadequate.

All countries that signed the Paris climate accord were committed to limit temperature rises to "well below" 2.0-degree Celsius | AP

The commitments made in Paris in 2015 were "far from enough" to limit temperature rises to 1.5 degrees Celsius, the UN secretary-general said in his opening address to the summit, which is co-hosted by Britain and France.

"If we don't change course, we may be headed for a catastrophic temperature rise of more than 3.0 degrees this century," he said.

"That is why today, I call on all leaders worldwide to declare a State of Climate Emergency in their countries until carbon neutrality is reached," he added, arguing the recovery from COVID-19 presented a rare opportunity to recalibrate growth.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson told the climate summit that a traumatic year of pandemic was ending with the hope of vaccines coming onstream. "My message to you all is that together, we can use scientific advances to protect our planet, our biosphere against a challenge far worse, far more destructive, than even the coronavirus pandemic," he said.

For its part, Britain was acting on climate not because it was a nation of "mung bean-eating eco freaks" but because scientific progress would allow the creation of "millions" of green jobs, Johnson added.

Speaking slots were handed to countries that submitted the most ambitious plans to accelerate their Paris promises.

These include Honduras and Guatemala, which were hit last month by a pair of monster hurricanes, as well as India, which is battling increasingly erratic weather patterns and air pollution.

Business figures set to speak include Tim Cook, the chief executive of Apple, which has committed to making its whole supply chain carbon neutral by 2030. But major economies including Australia, Brazil and South Africa are absent.

Brazil's far-right President Jair Bolsonaro has dismissed the scale of destruction to the Amazon rainforest opened up by his climate-sceptic policies.

The United States, the world's second-largest polluter after China, left the Paris Agreement under President Donald Trump. President-elect Joe Biden plans to re-enter the accord, and has set a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050.

'MOMENTS OF ACCOUNTABILITY'

Speakers at Saturday's summit were delivering short video messages, with organisers saying they would announce "new and ambitious climate change commitments" and that there would be "no space for general statements".

Under the Paris climate accord, signatories committed to action to limit temperature rises to "well below" 2.0 Celsius above pre-industrial levels, and to try to restrain them to 1.5C.

But the UN warned this week that temperatures remain on course to rise more than 3.0C this century, creating a crisis that will "dwarf the impacts of Covid-19".

The summit is a stocktaking exercise five years after the Paris accord was signed and a prelude to the UN's COP26 climate change conference in Scotland next November. That was meant to happen last month but was delayed by the pandemic. Greenpeace called Saturday a "moment of accountability for leaders".

EXFILE • WORLD TODAY

WEIGHT GAIN NOT HEALTHY

For the first time ever, manmade materials likely outweigh all life on Earth. Here's a look at the development, what it means and what could happen in the future...

FEELING TOO HEAVY FOR COMFORT

Scientists on Wednesday estimated that humanity's footprint is heavier than that of the natural world. In a study undertaken by Israel's Weizmann Institute of Science, the research establishes that all manmade construction, as it stands, weigh 1.1 teratonnes. It was published in the scientific journal, Nature.

HOW DID THEY ARRIVE AT THIS CONCLUSION?

According to CNN, the 'researchers divided human-made objects into six main categories: concrete, aggregates (including materials like gravel), bricks, asphalt, metals and "other" materials, which includes plastic, wood used for construction and paper, and glass'. The growth in using this has driven the planet to this point.

HOW MUCH WAS IT PREVIOUSLY?

According to the study, in the beginning of the 20th century manmade mass was just 3% of the weight of biomass. However, boom in production, rapid urbanisation and development of super cities across the world has contributed in tipping the scales. The study mentions that humans, since the first agricultural revolution, have reduced biomass by approximately 50% (from 2 teratonnes to 1.1 teratonnes).

WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS?

Grim. If the current pace is going to continue, the study says that manmade mass will exceed three teratonnes in the next 20 years. That just means more deforestation and biosphere losses.

WHAT EXACTLY DOES IT MEAN?

Simple. To build civilisations, humans have built a lot of things from roads, to buildings to airplanes and so on. We are now at that point where all the things that humans have created outweigh the living things — trees and animals for example — on Earth.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

KEY FIGURES

1.1 teratonnes Weight of manmade mass

3% At the start of the 20th century, manmade mass was just 3% to that of global biomass. Manmade mass is now heavier than biomass

30 gigatonnes Human-made mass per year

"This study provides a sort of 'big picture' snapshot of the planet in 2020. We hope that once we have these somewhat shocking figures before our eyes, we can as a species take responsibility."
Ron Milo, co-author, Weizmann Institute of Science

"We can no longer deny our central role in the natural world. We are already a major player and with that comes a shared responsibility."
Emily Elhacham, lead author

Giant iconic icebreaker on last voyage

END-ARCTICA

The giant orange icebreaker Aurora Australis left Australia for the final time on Saturday after more than 150 trips to Antarctica. Next stop: a shipyard in Dubai, where it will be refurbished and either leased or sold. The Australian Antarctic Division announced earlier this year that after 30 years of sailing to the frozen continent for research and to support Australian bases in Antarctica, the Aurora Australis would be replaced by a larger ship.

The 95-meter (312-foot) Aurora Australis was built in Newcastle north of Sydney and launched in September 1989. It undertook its maiden voyage to Heard Island, an external Australian territory in Antarctica, in 1990. It has since ferried researchers, crucial food and fuel supplies and been involved in several rescues.

Sean Lawrence, a seaman for 14 years on the vessel, planned to toast the icebreaker with a beer from his house south of Hobart as he watched it leave the River Derwent. "You form a bond when you're isolated and working in extreme conditions," he said. "To suddenly have that leaving your life, it leaves a bit of a hole."

Lawrence was aboard the Aurora Australis when it ran aground near Mawson Station in Antarctica during a blizzard in 2016. It was stuck for several days after a mooring line came undone. "(It was) extreme conditions but we saw the way people stepped up to the mark and got on with the job," Lawrence said.

In December 2013, it transported 52 people from the MV Akademik Shokalskiy to safety after the Russian ship became stranded in thick ice.

HERE'S A SECRET ABOUT SANTA...

DS MAX

The season of love, gifts and joy is here!!

As all hearts await the bearer of gifts, everyone's beloved, the one who keeps a list of all the naughty and nice ones - our beloved Santa Claus, we'd like to let you in on a secret! This time, he's gonna arrive not in a sledge but via social media!

Yes! Whether you make it to Santa's list or not, you're definitely on mine! **All you have to do is to share a picture of a joyful you on social media and follow, tag me on it and voila-** your gifts will come to find you and not the other way round!

With best wishes for the season!

facebook Instagram @DrKVSatishofficial

- Dr. KVS, Chairman

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